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28 MAY 1986

Latin America Report



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LATIN AMERICA REPORT

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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

REGIONAL POLITICAL PARTIES REACT TO PARAGUAY'S DOMESTIC EVENTS

Uruguay's Colorados Support Opposition

PY270226 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0027 GMT 27 Apr 86

[Text] Montevideo, 26 April (EFE)--The Colorado Party, the ruling party in Uruguay, today decided to participate in a rally for democracy in Paraguay sponsored by the opposition to the regime of President Alfredo Stroessner. The rally is scheduled for 14 May in Asuncion.

The "Colorado" Party Executive Board, which is headed by Vice President Enrique Tarigo, who is also the Colorado party secretary general, has accepted an invitation from the "Paraguayan National Accord." This multi-party organization includes the Authentic Radical Liberal Party, the "MOPOCO" [Colorado Popular Movement], the Feberista Revolutionary Party, and the Christian Democratic Party.

Dputy Juan Justo Amaro will represent the Uruguayan Ruling Party in the rally for "democracy and national dialogue," scheduled in Asuncion on the anniversary of "Paraguay's political independence."

The sponsors said in Montevideo that "the Paraguayan National Accord is engaged in the active civic mobilization of the people to express and ratify the people's strong desire to gain their liberties and rights, which are being violated by the dictatorship reigning in our country."

The sponsors added that "in this regard, the rally will show the commitment we have assumed to democratize our country."

Paraguayan opposition members have said that "the solidarity among the Latin American democratic political forces is an invaluable contribution to the cause of the peoples who are struggling to recover their liberty."

Socialists Protest

Paris AFP in Spanish 0222 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Montevideo, 29 April (AFP)--The Latin American Socialist Coordination (CSL) [Coordinacion Socialista Latino Americana], which is made up of 10 Latin American socialist parties, today expressed its categorical protest of the repressive wave that has been unleashed by the Paraguayan dictatorship.

In a communique issued in Montevideo this afternoon, the CSL, which was established here on 13 April, demanded the immediate freedom of all Paraguayan politician prisoners, and union leaders. It also called on member parties to adopt urgent solidarity measures.

The communique denounced the recent assassination of Paraguayan Student Rodolfo Gonzalez; the arrest of Peasant Leader Corazon Medina, who was arrested for staging a peaceful demonstration; of Physician Anibal Carrillo and of Diana Banuelos, general secretary of the Febrerista Party Youth.

In addition, the CSL requested Latin American democratic governments to send legislative missions to express support for Paraguayan democratic forces, particularly the Febrerista Revolutionary Party [FRP]. [Text] [Paris AFP in Spanish 0222 GMT 30 Apr 86 PY] /12913

CSO: 3348/547

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

ECUADOR, COLOMBIA INTEGRATION MINISTERS MEETING

PA092115 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] The Ecuadoran and Colombian integration ministers will meet in Tulcan today to discuss the most pressing problems of the two countries, especially in the trade area. The meeting will be held on the occasion of the ninth Colombian-Ecuadoran border integration fair that seeks the development of integrationist relations between the two countries. The inauguration of this event will be attended by Xavier Neira, industry, commerce, and integration minister, and his Colombian counterpart. The Ecuadoran official will be accompanied by Public Health Minister Joge Bracho.

One of the aspects that is of most concern to the two countries is the trade situation and the progress of the Andean process that has yet to find a specific point of agreement. Analysts have commented that the nonfulfillment of the provisions and commitments established in the Cartagena Agreement have been the weakest point in the process.

Both Colombia and Ecuador are particularly interested in increasing their trade relations and, for this purpose, several agreements have been signed on various occasions.

/7051

CSO: 3348/542

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT FOR ECUADOR, BOLIVIA

PA230052 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Xavier Neira, industry, commerce and integration minister, who returned from a meeting with the Andean Pact ministers in Panama City, said that representatives from the five member-countries agreed to maintain the preferential treatment for Ecuador and Bolivia, because they are the countries of less economic development in the subregion.

Neira said that the advances made during the meeting were very important, but still not enough to maintain a real balance. For this reason the Andean Pact ministers will meet again early next month in Lima, Peru.

Neira said that he was able to show with figures that the country has not been able to overcome its condition of less economic developed country. Neira added that Bolivia's condition is still worse than Ecuador's.

/7051

CSO: 3348/542

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

ARGENTINE-BOLIVIAN GAS CONTRACT--Buenos Aires, 29 April (TELAM)--Argentina has signed a \$296 million contract for the purchase of Bolivian gas over the next five years. The agreement was signed today by Argentine Industry and Foreign Trade Secretary Roberto Lavagna and Bolivian Energy and Hydrocarbons Minister Carlos Morales Landivar. [Excerpt] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0227 GMT 29 Apr 86 PY] /12913

ARGENTINE-CHILEAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION--Buenos Aires, 25 April (DYN)--The Argentine-Chilean Binational Commission for Physical Integration and Economic Cooperation today finished its first discussions since the signing of the Peace and Friendship Treaty in May 1985. The commission, made up of members of the respective executive secretariats for economic cooperation and physical integration, started the sessions by reviewing matters of common interest. According to an official report, the members of the secretariats and the experts agreed on principles regarding the integration process and some other points of common interest. Although the meeting has now ended the executive secretariats will continue to analyze the initiatives to be adopted within the framework of economic relations, aimed at increasing existing cooperation, until the next commission meeting, scheduled for Santiago. The final document of the discussions held yesterday and today at the San Martin Palace, was signed by Raul Alconada Sempe, Latin American affairs under secretary, for Argentina and Ambassador Ernesto Videla for Chile. [Text] [Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0127 GMT 26 Apr 86 PY] /12913

LABOR LEADER'S ENTRY REFUSED--Santiago, 30 April (AFP)--The Chilean authorities today prohibited Brazilian union leader Candido Hilario Garcia de Araujo from entering the country. He had been invited by the Metalworkers Confederation for the 1 May celebrations. Garcia de Araujo, a metalworkers' leader of the Brazilian National Conference of the Working Classes [CONCLAT], was stopped at Santiago International Airport. After his background was studied, he was not permitted to enter the country, according to Chilean labor leader Humberto Capello. The Brazilian labor leader, who carried greetings from the Brazilian metalworkers to their Chilean counterparts, had to board the same VARIG plane by which he had come to Santiago and return to his country. Garcia de Araujo had arrived with fellow countryman Gerardo Mendes de Melo, a leader of the Brazilian Sole Central Organization of Workers (CUT). Mendes de Melo was allowed to enter the country after a thorough examination of his past. Capello said that the situation was reported to Brazilian Ambassador Jorge Ribeiro, who was surprised and said that he would have been able to prevent the expulsion if the case had been reported to him in time. According to Capello, the ambassador told him that Mendes de Melo would be a guest of the Embassy. [Text] [Paris AFP in Spanish 0220 GMT 1 May 86 PY] /12913

INTER-AMERICAN NAVY CONFERENCE--Bahia Blanca, 25 April (TELAM)--Rear Admiral Hector Martini, the commander of Naval Aviation, today presided over the closing of the Sixth Conference of the Inter-American Council, which started on 22 April, with the participation of delegates from 12 countries. The naval officers carried out four days of technical activities in which they discussed matters pertaining to security on the high seas and an analysis of the operation of helicopters from vessels other than aircraft carriers. Martini highlighted the positive results that were achieved during the meeting, which included naval officers from Brazil, Ecuador, the United States, Paraguay, Venezuela, Chile, Mexico, Uruguay, Colombia and Peru. He indicated that the results have been important for the representatives of those countries that have not achieved the technological capability of the Argentine Navy. He not only stressed the degree of compatibility that had been achieved, but also the approval given by the U.S. officers regarding the important topics that had been discussed. The U.S. Naval officers made it known that Argentina must once again participate in the joint Unitas exercises. The closing ceremony included a talk on helicopter operation in the Antarctic and a film called: "Certification Program for Surface Units." [Text] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Apr 86 PY] /12913

INTERNATIONAL SPY RING UNCOVERED--Neuquen--Reliable sources have reported that nine people have been arrested in the province for allegedly being connected with an international espionage ring. It has also been reported that one of them said that he is a Chilean military officer. No official information has been released so far, but there are rumors that at least three or four of those persons are already under custody at the U-9 Southern Regional Prison in this provincial capital. The operations have been conducted by the Neuquen detachment of the Federal Police, the Gendarmerie, and the provincial police. Several vehicles and modern communications gear have reportedly been seized in these operations. The spy ring has been under surveillance for more than a month, when the first arrests were said to have been made. The organizations that conducted the operations have been reluctant to provide detailed information, saying that confirmation of the arrests can only be obtained from the Foreign Ministry, as well as any explanation regarding the strategic information that may have been gathered in the western zone of this province. Some of the vehicles were said to have been seized in the city of Zapala, in the central zone of the province, where some of the arrests were reportedly made. However, it was reported that Zapala is only one of the sites where the organization has been operating, because it had branches at various points along the border with Chile. [Text] [Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 27 Apr 86 p 15 PY] /12913

LABOR UNIONISTS CONDEMN REPRESSION--All 70 delegates from 46 countries of all continents and representatives of the WFTU and the Permanent Congress for Latin American Workers Trade Union Unity who attended this meeting approved a declaration condemning the fierce repression that dictator Augusto Pinochet's forces unleashed on Chilean workers on 1 May. The document demands the immediate release of hundreds of Chilean detainees, and particularly that of (Mauri Pera), secretary general of the International Construction Union, who went to Chile as a WFTU representative to celebrate International Labor Day. During the meeting, the union leaders from all continents expressed their approval of a worldwide work stoppage on 23 October to call for nonpayment of the foreign debt. [Isis Maria Allen report on the International Labor Union Meeting for Peace and Development in Havana--recorded] [Excerpt] [Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 May 86 PA] /12913

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

PROJECT FUNDING, DEBTS TO BE DISCUSSED WITH U.S. TEAM

FL232020 Bridgetown CANA in English 1847 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] St Johns, 23 Apr (CANA)--Amidst some scepticism, Antigua and Barbuda says it doesn't anticipate any trouble in paying for new multi-million dollar water, electricity, hotel construction and airport improvement projects.

But American financiers are not so confident. In fact, the St Johns administration says it expects a high-level U.S. team here shortly to discuss Antigua and Barbuda's ability to meet its debt commitments and to assess the financial impact of new projects.

For some of these projects the government had borrowed more than 63 million U.S. dollars--which works out to more than the 1986-87 projected national recurrent revenue of almost 160 million East Caribbean dollars (one EC dollar, 27 cents U.S.).

Some government officials here admit that there have been debt-servicing problems for the country, which this year expects to spend 27.5 million dollars on the repayment of principal and interest on various loans and the servicing of government securities.

The Americans probably feel that we are going too fast, Prime Minister Vere Bird said. They are fearful that we couldn't have the capacity to pay for the Deep Bay hotel project, and desalting plant and electrical generators, and the rehabilitation of the airport.

One of the government's big debts is related to the hotel construction project at Deep Bay. In 1984 the Morgan Grenfell money house of Britain arranged a syndicated loan of 45 million U.S. dollars guaranteed by the Italian export authority for the project.

The U.S. is also lending the Caribbean state U.S. 7 million dollars for the second phase of a water development project that includes establishing a desalination plant.

Five French banks, Barclays and Swiss America are providing U.S. 11 million dollars for improving the landing and parking facilities at the international airport named after Bird.

Bird said his government had the confidence that we had in the days past in the state's ability to pay off the loans. However, when Finance Minister John St Luce presented the 1986-87 national budget last February he admitted that there have been debt servicing problems.

Much of the country's outstanding debts are debts incurred by or on behalf of government bodies and agencies, he said. In some cases, debt servicing is inadequate because government itself has not been able to fund these bodies adequately because of a multitude of other commitments which have occurred due to the government's overall involvement in the economy.

In other cases, the projects themselves do not generate sufficient income to manage debt servicing. He conceded that some undertakings, such as the desalting plant, old power equipment, and fisheries schemes are obviously not generating any income at all, but the loans must be serviced.

There were others, such as port and water facilities which did not generate enough income to adequately service the debts incurred in establishing them.

The leftwing newspaper OUTLET suggested that some of the projects were badly handled by the government and that the Americans would investigate alleged corruption. Such charges were baseless, Bird said.

The paper had also said that the Americans were particularly worried about the plans for the desalting plant. Bird said the government was establishing the plant to alleviate hardship in the event of a drought similar to the one which gripped the state in 1983-84, destroying crops and livestock.

The government, through the Antigua-based Pan Caribbean Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Project, imported water from Dominica and Guadeloupe to ease the shortage. I am not going to ask (Dominica Prime Minister Eugenia) Charles for any water again, Bird remarked.

He made it clear that government had decided long ago to establish the desalting plant--which would provide two million gallons of water per day--along with the electricity generating plant billed to prevent the numerous power cuts residents have been forced to put up with in recent times.

Those who are fearful of whether we will have the money to pay for the desalting plant and the generators, arrangements have already been made and at present we are all paying a two and a half percent (surcharge) on all imports, he said. That will bring in five and a half million U.S. dollars per year. After we collect it, four million will be used to pay the installments and the remainder will be available to the Treasury. So there is no need for fear regarding the project.

The hotel project involves construction of a 550-room complex to be run, Bird said, by Hilton or some other group. Government hopes to acquire about 15 million U.S. dollars per year from the venture.

We are going to take a list of all our public debts and we are going to carry that list to a bank to liquidate them, Bird remarked. The money we will be

getting from the hotel annually--we will pay that amount into the bank, ending all uncertainty and accusations regarding the project.

A USAID team recently visited Antigua to hold economic talks with key government officials.

At the end of the discussions, a Ministry of Foreign Affairs statement said the United States Government had agreed to a request from the Antigua and Barbuda Government for a team of experts similar to one currently operating in St Kitts and Nevis, Dominica, and Grenada to assist in refining fiscal measures and enhancing the environment for development of the economy.

It said both sides agreed that the dialogue between them was so useful that it should be repeated regularly with a focus on the ways in which the U.S. could help every sector of the economy develop.

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ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

SPEED UP IN RELEASE OF UK AID SOUGHT BY GOVERNMENT

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 12 Apr 86 p 5

[Text]

LONDON, April 11. *Cana* — ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA has suggested that Britain speed up the disbursement of ten million pounds Sterling promised when the country gained political independence in November, 1981. The suggestion was made in a memorandum on economic relations between St. John's and London, that High Commissioner Ronald Sanders submitted to the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee last week.

So far, only 1.43 million Sterling had been disbursed, said Sanders, and at the present rate of disbursement, it would be 2008, a lapse of 27 years from the date of promise, before Antigua and Barbuda fully received its independence gift from the UK.

The diplomat asserted that if the money were disbursed in equal annual instalments by 1990 for economically important projects, the Caribbean State would have a chance to achieve lasting political stability and economic viability.

Not Too Great

Antigua and Barbuda did not consider this too great a desire, he added, particularly against the background of its friendship with Britain, the large surplus of trade which Britain enjoyed with it, and the small sum in official development assistance which it had received from Britain so far.

The slow pace of disbursement of the so-called golden handshake independence packages was raised in a meeting, last year, between Antigua and its neighbours in the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and Britain's Overseas Development Minister.

Antigua and Barbuda had an unfavourable visible trade balance of 27.1 million pounds Sterling with Britain last year, when its exports were

valued at 1.8 million Sterling and imports at 28.7 million.

Total bilateral British aid to Antigua and Barbuda was tagged at 2.9 million Sterling between April, 1981, and March, 1985.

Antigua also voiced some concern about the impact of British aid on the economy.

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ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

MARITIME BOUNDARY WITH GUADELOUPE DISCUSSED WITH FRENCH

St Johns HERALD in English 28 Mar 86 p 1

[Text]

Delegations from Antigua and Barbuda and France this week began a series of discussions leading to the signing of a protocol establishing National Maritime Boundaries between the French overseas department of Guadeloupe and Antigua and Barbuda.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister Lester Bird headed the 8-man Antigua and Barbuda delegation at this week's preliminary talks. The 6-man French team was led by the Director of Legal Affairs, Ministry of External Relations in Paris, France, Mr. Gilbert Guillaume.

In an interview, Mr. Guillaume told the HERALD the talks are being held in an "atmosphere of mutual respect and understanding." He said both sides submitted their positions at the talks held at the Barrymore Hotel. The French official explained that the talks, which are likely to continue over a period of years, are aimed at fixing the Maritime Boundaries

between Antigua and Barbuda on one hand and France through its overseas departments of St. Bartholomew and Guadeloupe on the other hand.

In his introductory remarks at the start of the discussions, Deputy Prime Minister Lester Bird noted that Antigua and Barbuda has enjoyed warm and friendly relations with its neighbours Guadeloupe and Martinique and since the attainment of independence in 1981, it has established close fraternal ties with France.

He noted that "Antigua and Barbuda has a very strong fishing community and in negotiations on our exclusive economic zone and its limits in relation to French territorial waters, we will be keen to protect and safeguard the interest of our fishing community".

Mr. Bird was quick to recognise that France too, may wish to safeguard the interest of its fishing community, however, he said, "Our obligation to protect our fishing communities

need not mean that our discussions should not proceed on friendly terms which we have always enjoyed. Indeed, if we bring to these discussions, the spirit of cooperation which has always characterised our relations in the past, I am satisfied that we will reach an agreement of lasting benefit to both our peoples."

A communique issued at the end of the meeting said "a delegation from Antigua and Barbuda and the Republic of France held preliminary talks in St. John's on the 24 March, 1986 with a view to defining Maritime Boundaries between the two states. Both sides exchanged views in this respect. The talks progressed in a satisfactory

manner. It was agreed to hold further talks in France in September."

Meanwhile a delegation from the European Economic Community (EEC) and from the Antigua-Barbuda Government held exploratory talks for a Fisheries Access Agreement.

The delegation from the EEC was acting on behalf of France as a member State of the EEC in respect of Guadeloupe and Martinique which are integral parts of French territory.

The delegations were respectively lead by Mr. Laurent Van Depoele for the EEC and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Lands, Robin Yearwood, for the Government of Antigua and Barbuda.

The negotiations will be continued.

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ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

BARBUDA COUNCIL CHAIRMAN AIRS COMPLAINTS, ISLAND'S NEEDS

St Johns HERALD in English 28 Mar 86 p 11

[Article by Arthur Nibbs, chairman, Barbuda Council]

[Text]

Antigua and Barbuda boast of their growth and promotion of Antigua since Independence 1981, but yet little if anything is known about Barbuda.

The Government of Antigua and Barbuda spoke highly of the uncomparable promotion Antigua got by the effective advertising by the great "ST. JAMES'S CLUB". What of Barbuda? Nothing.

The average tourist who happens to appear on Barbuda when asked as to how they managed to reach Barbuda, replies, "By chance."

The tourists often say that when they have asked people for information on Barbuda, they are told that there is "no place to stay and there is nothing there but wild life and a few natives."

Barbuda has been annexed to Antigua since 1860 for basic economic reasons. What economic gains has Barbuda received in comparison to Antigua? Look at the telephone situation. Antigua

has a permanent system while Barbuda continuously has been put on temporary systems that never functioned correctly.

There seems to be some move being made to bring Barbuda closer to having a permanent system. Time will prove whether or not this is just another temporary system.

Antigua has numerous sports complexes. Minister of Sports, how many are there in Barbuda?

Antigua has an effective Fire Control Service and equipment to do the job. If a fire occurs in Barbuda, we have to put it out the "old fashioned way" -... each neighbour with a bucket of water. The police who act as the Fire Dept., usually get there after the fire is out to harass the residents right then to establish the cause.

On Barbuda things are relatively calm. The people are warm, friendly, and known for their hospitality. But they are not educated on

their rights as citizens or even as human beings.

The Police Sargeant of Barbuda is really not supposed to beat up civilians and lock them away for over 24 hours for routine arrests like gambling. In Antigua a similar offense would find one free on bail and awaiting court date. Not so in Barbuda. The "bathroom" (smells and is so small and nasty.. not suitable for even pigs to inhabit. The Sargeant is habitual. He will detain you, arrest you, and pronounce his judgement on you before the court hearings. He will lock you up, and he doesn't have to give you any idea of how long you will be there? He doesn't. If you are not rich enough to give the "Peace Officer" a long line of credit at your place of business, lend him your vehicle when theirs breaks down, or supply him with lobster, deer meat and fish, a misdemeanor could land you in prison!

There are some in Barbuda however, who seems to be invisible to the eye of the Sergeant. Such as the case of the prominent citizen who was "disturbed" at his Warri game. He picked up the same Warri board and smashed a man in the head. The man was

treated by the local volunteer doctor for injuries.

An investigation was never conducted into the matter and the subject was closed. This contrary to the usual action taken by police in a related matter. Could it be that the police do not carry out their work "even-handedly"?

We must study all the circumstances in the sister island of Barbuda. We are in need of exposure in more ways than one. The law cannot be different according to one's bank account, can it? When our Government of Antigua and Barbuda can truly see what is happening to Barbuda, we will see changes. It is up to us, the people, to make sure this remains an important issue. Barbuda will be of great value to her people if we strive together to gain knowledge and insight to the problems that must be controlled.

I am committed to the growth and welfare of Barbuda and her people. As Chairman of the Barbuda Council, I plan to do what ever I can do to ensure that Barbuda receives attention and assistance as needed from the proper sources in Antigua. We will see changes...soon.

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CSO: 3298/426

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

PROBLEMS WITH COTTON CROP ATTRIBUTED TO 'ATTITUDE'

St Johns HERALD in English 28 Mar 86 pp 11, 13

[Commentary by "Pope": "Cotton Picking--A National Problem"]

[Text]

The 1986 cotton crop is now been harvested, but according to figures released by cotton officials, the harvesting operations are coming up against serious problems. There are some 121 acres of cotton under cultivation and according to one senior cotton official, the estimated yield is 1,000 pounds per acre but he added that much of the cotton has now began to spoil as a result of a poor show in the number of persons willing to harvest the crop.

In a lengthy telephone conversation, the cotton official pointed out that Japan alone was to purchase all the cotton that Antigua could grow and that the present 121 acres under cultivation was but a meagre amount. To reap 121 acres of cotton, it was pointed out, needed no more than one person per acre, but said the cotton official, the number of pickers so far this year have not exceeded 60 and this number represents just

one day. In an effort to attract workers, the Ministry of Agriculture has decided to pay an all time high of \$.75 per pound, an amount which the official says reduces the profits from the crop dramatically. To support his point, the official pointed out that approximately 33% of the harvested cotton is lint while 67% of it is seed. If his estimate is correct and let us suppose it is, it then follows naturally and by elementary calculation that of every 3 lbs. of seed cotton reaped 1 lb. of lint (clean cotton) is had.

What bothers me is not the government paying workers \$.75¢ per pound for seed cotton or \$2.25 per pound for lint according to the figures I have, neither does Japan paying U.S.\$4.50 per pound for lint bothers me. My concerns are why so few persons willing to participate in what is a national economic concern even when monetary rewards are attached? Are the Ministries of Agriculture and Economic Develop-

ment aware of the need to build up our foreign reserves? Are we conscious of what losing the 1986 cotton crop mean for us? These are a few of my concerns.

As a developing country we are plagued with a few problems chief among them is an over dose of false pride which is most demonstrated in our anti-soil, anti-agriculture attitude. We all talk about and agree in common that there definitely is a need for us to be able to feed ourselves yet there is a great reluctance on the part of this country to be actively engaged in agriculture. Now in the case of cotton, a crop which is of economic importance to this country nobody wants to be associated, no body wants to be involved. Our attitudes show that we are up and out of that agricultural era of yester year an all we are willing to do now is cut cloth and sell or sew pieces together in a factory. From a report released by a cotton official, at \$.75 per pound and over a four day period top coiton pickers Joy Martin earned \$184.50, Elderfield Challenger \$193.00, Sarah Eva \$214.50, Violet Knight \$148.50 and Linton Paige \$136.50. These amounts were earned over only four days and serves as testimony that there definitely is a false illusion about agriculture in this country. The above quoted wages earned

over a four day period far exceed the amounts earned by many of those factory workers at Coolidge and even workers in several governmental departments. What I am saying is that while unemployment and underemployment are high in this country, people do not care to get into agriculture which is one of the areas of ready employment, but rather prefer to sit at home and write applications to work as store clerks, factory shell employees or to do their jobs which only entail much more fancy clothing and far less money.

One of the ways in which a small but very important crop - cotton - can be reaped is to get the assistance of community service groups, and to have our villages or parishes so organised as to give **VOLUNTARILY** of their time and service to the country. The success of a crop such as cotton will go a great way in improving our life. Upon the Ministries of Agriculture and Economic Development I call, pleading for a campaign to sensitise and mobilise all of Antigua on the importance of agriculture and foreign exchange. This is of immediate importance. At this point what I strongly suggest is that all other work in the country cease and our efforts be concentrated in the harvesting of foreign exchange earner - cotton.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

BRIEFS

UNDP ELECTIONS--St Johns, 21 Apr (CANA)--Antigua and Barbuda's newest political party has chosen Surgeon Dr Ivor Heath as its first political leader. The middle-of-the-road United National Democratic Party (UNDP) elected Heath, 59, yesterday at its first convention attended by over 200 supporters. He once headed the National Democratic Party (NDP), which recently merged with the United Peoples Movement (UPM), led by ex-Premier George Walters. Baldwin Spencer, who belonged to the UPM, has been elected the UNDP's deputy political leader. Heath said the new party should represent itself well in the next general election due in 1989, and their first step will be to encourage more people to vote. Just over 48 percent of the electorate voted in the 1984 election, which Prime Minister Vere Bird's Labour Party won convincingly by taking 16 of the 17 parliamentary seats. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1745 GMT 21 Apr 86 FL] /9274

TRACTORS FOR FARMING--The Antigua and Barbuda government has received four new tractors costing some \$200,000 to improve land preparation for agricultural production. Two of the machines will go to the Antigua Sugar Corporation, while one each will go to the Diamond Irrigation Project and the Agricultural Division. A source in the Ministry of Agriculture said the acquisition will be a big help to the agricultural sector since late land preparation has been identified as one of the limiting factors in expanding agricultural production in Antigua and Barbuda. [Text] [St Johns NATION'S VOICE in English 27 Mar 86 p 7] /9274

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

BRAZIL

GOVERNMENT'S FOUR-YEAR PLAN TO EMPHASIZE S&T

Brasilia I PLANO NACIONAL DE DESENVOLVIMENTO DA NOVA REPUBLICA 1986-1989
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[Draft of Science and Technology Section of the First National Development Plan of the New Republic [I PND] 1986-1989]

[Text] Part IV, Science and Technology

1. Present Status

After decades of efforts spent in the building of scientific and technological bases in the country, that system is showing serious institutional, financial and technical shortcomings despite having managed to achieve a significant competence in many fields. At the roots of the problems faced by the sector is the neglect to which participation of the scientific community and other sectors of civilian society was relegated in decision-making processes.

Under those circumstances, the National System of Scientific and Technological Development must be defined, beginning with the creation of the Ministry of Science and Technology as the central agency of the system. The Scientific and Technological Council, an organization made up of representatives of the various areas of the government and the community, must be reorganized in such a way that it will act more decisively in the establishment of policies for the sector. The participation of the federative units and those of other spheres of the government shall also be considered.

With respect to financial resources actually allocated, difficulties being faced are without precedent: Since the last decade those resources have been declining markedly.

The recomposition and progressive increase in spending in the area is an essential measure for recovering the productive capability of the scientific and technological system. The reequipment and expansion of research institutes, the improvement of postgraduate centers, the adoption of a policy of study and research scholarships, the cost and number of grants considered on a realistic basis, are priorities.

Moreover, in view of the Brazilian option for a market economy, it is necessary to encourage private enterprise investments in the assimilation and generation of technologies. In that way, conditions for overcoming the shortcomings observed in the other levels of activities and services, which make up the system of science and technology (transfer of the results to the productive sector, regulation of industrial technology and quality), as well as the lack of trained human resources, shall be created.

1.1. Status of Science

The inconsistency and incoherence of government policies of the past have made the growth in the area since the 70's to lead to the waste of resources --already scarce in recent years--and to a high social cost. Development of the various fields of science took place in an unequal manner. Many groups and even institutions suffered a number of restrictions, including those of a politicoideological nature.

Positive results achieved by science in Brazil were many times the result of actions by government development agencies, particularly in the federal area, which in the past invested in the training, placement and maintenance of research groups, even though such sectoral policy did not have the actual backing of other state policies. In other cases, the results obtained resulted from the activities of isolated researchers and institutions.

It is recognized, however, that scientific advance in significant proportions requires the direct support of the state.

The forms of support adopted for the installation of the scientific system in the 70's show themselves to be insufficient and inadequate today in view of the nature of a policy linked to national interests.

It is necessary to organize financing plans that will insure regular and stable flows for scientific development and planning, and decision-making, oversight and evaluation machinery created with the effective participation of the scientific community.

Universities lack policy and management structures that evaluate and support, including financially, the activities of research. The difficulties in providing means in a judicious manner, and in the quantities required in each case, lead to the existence of institutional contrasts: On one hand, programs conducted by means of external contracts directed by competitive mechanisms show productivity, but under the constant risk of losing their resources; on the other, there is a large mass with little apparent diversity dependent on insufficient university budgets, with scant production, in part because of the absence of incentives and sanctions.

In recent years, resources for research were considerably reduced. Research equipment itself in many cases is unused, laboratories and libraries are deteriorating, and the subscriptions for magazines and new acquisitions are suspended or reduced.

In the universities, a considerable part of the diversity that scientific activities sought to reward, was lost. The lack of tradition of the institutions, as well as salary losses, induced distortions in the system of exclusive full-time dedication. This situation, therefore, demands an in-depth change in the institutional framework for the creation of financial mechanisms with university institutions and in the system of the evaluation of the quality and productivity of programs.

1.2. Status of Technology

Despite the difficulties mentioned in the scientific area, the country managed to reach a reasonable level of domestic skill. In the technological sector, the outstanding characteristic is the structural heterogeneity of the productive park. Despite some successful initiatives found in specific areas of the productive sector, the country in the majority of cases is faced with situations of inefficiency, the result of the use of obsolete process and product technologies. The more competitive modern areas are generally quite dependent on the continued imports of know-how.

A technological policy that is in keeping with the process of assimilation of productive knowledge is necessary. Technological knowledge, particularly in the last 20 years, has been aimed at innovation in processes and products for the domestic market and for export. That process of innovation is nurtured by the knowledge generated indigenously and by that which is imported, and should be, therefore, regulated by policies of generation and importing of technology.

Production of technology is essentially in keeping with the state of economic development of a country. It is centered in that area of the productive cycle where the decision to incorporate technical progress appears. When there are reasons--generally economic--for the adoption of a new technology, a chain of decisions is generated that involve different agents and alternatives. However, there are few alternatives that conclude by mobilizing the efforts of institutions and human resources that are going to actually work in technological creation or adaptation. Frequently, production of technology and the circumstances that justify and make viable its adoption, have been treated erroneously and differently.

Despite success in some areas, government support has generally provided the producers of Brazilian technology with financing, contracts and incentives that are many times based on exclusively academic criteria. Burdensome and complex programs, which concluded by attracting more researchers in search of funds for their research than they did companies truly interested in the innovation of processes and products, were promoted. And, something that is even more serious, real incentives and markets for Brazilian technology were neglected. At the same time that incentive programs were being created, the viability of research and development plans were compromised by the parallel introduction of policies that allowed the free entry of sealed technological packages, some of them inserted in foreign financing agreements of the state enterprise sector itself.

Therefore, technological policies implemented here up to now were based almost exclusively on actions that were relatively in favor of the supply side, when the proper functioning of the market means a joint action with respect to the producer and seller of technology, as well as to the one who buys and uses it. Some attempts to act on the side of demand encountered economic and institutional barriers.

That distortion was due in part to the Brazilian industrial structure. The presence of foreign companies, the strategic activities of state companies in search of better risk margins, and the incipient technological tradition of national private enterprise hindered the channeling of the demand by the productive sector to research and development projects that could have been accomplished in the country. A better orientation of government investments will allow incentives for the generation of the demand for new technologies by national private companies.

In other cases, the distortion is the result of past government action. Such is the case of the technological research institutes. Today the country has a widespread network of institutions prepared for providing important services to the various segments of the economy. However, an excessive diversification of the range of activities performed in the majority of these institutes, is noted particularly within the state sector, which represents an obstacle to the generation of techniques compatible with the specifications of the Brazilian market.

Also in the field of regulation--industrial property and industrial quality--there is the need for many initiatives of a legal, technical and scientific nature. The lack of standardization among the various industrial segments and the lack of technical standards and of testing and metrological laboratories causes the productive sector to operate with high rates of waste of supplies, raw materials and components, all of which leads to penalizing the final consumer.

The economic crisis of past years, in turn, has had a negative effect on the investments of the companies themselves and on the orders for research and development projects, causing an increase in the relative technological lag. Existing conditions themselves, however, forced a search for greater efficiency and productivity by a significant part of the productive sector. The result was the worsening of the levels of heterogeneity of the industrial park, where modern sectors, highly competitive at an international level, face off with inefficient and undynamic sectors. While the former were forced to adopt more advanced technologies to increase their penetration into the foreign market, the latter, because of the crisis, saw themselves incapable of investing adequately.

However, the very crisis that reduces government and private spending, may come to generate bottlenecks in the importing of goods and services, opening a space for national technology, as has happened in the past when tariffs created by financial reasons turned out to be effective protection for a nascent industry.

Therefore, the picture of the generation of technology is very varied because official financing and the actions of research institutions depend on decisions made in another area of the process.

The questions raised heretofore indicate two general lines for technological policy. In some cases there is a need for a widespread dissemination of technical knowledge existing in the country or abroad within the framework of the productive system. In others, more than just the simple use of available techniques, there is an imperious need for the companies to achieve a complete mastery of the technology used so that they may fit its adaptation to the peculiarities of the country and strengthen national power of competition.

Those two requirements appear differently with respect to the various segments of the economy. Therefore, policy should promote generation and assimilation of technology at the same time, including that coming from abroad, and a broad dissemination of information, maintaining a suitable flexibility so as to emphasize the differences in each of these phases in the different sectors.

2. OBJECTIVES AND ORIENTATIONS OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL POLICY

The most immediate government action shall be that of a significant increase in the budgetary resources of the institutions. It is a question of strengthening institutional and technical conditions for scientific and technological training and research through reequipment and expansion of research institutes, improvement of postgraduate centers already in place, and of a substantive increase in value and number of teaching and research scholarships. The government shall also seek a better integration of national private enterprise into technological development.

The decision to reorganize and expand national science and technology reflects the viewpoint of the government, which considering them as active coparticipants in the process of recovery of the development of the country. The efforts to be undertaken for the sustained renewal of growth, for the payment of the public debt, for the rebalancing of interregional and intraregional relations and for the change in the political and economic relationship on the international level, should necessarily consider the component of science and technology.

The policy for the sector, therefore, covers actions aimed at two simultaneous and complementary objectives: That of promoting and insuring activities of scientific research, and that of applying the results of technological research and development to priority areas. It must also consider the requisites and diversity of the field of science and those of the field of technology, indicating their aspects of coincidence.

The scientific and technological policy maintains a high degree of connection with the other public policies. However, its objectives should not be exhausted in attending to the demands generated in each sector.

The establishment of own objectives derives from its capability to create conditions for significant changes in the technical base, as well as in the relations among the various segments of society, primarily its productive sector. For that purpose, it should have a forward-looking nature and an autonomy with respect to the other state policies so that it may make desirable changes viable in the model of development.

The absolutely priority nature conferred by the government to the improvement of the needy people's living conditions, poses a challenge to the scientific and technological policy: It is not enough to reorient resources and efforts for the attainment of objectives in the future; it is necessary to properly apply available knowledge to the solution of social problems as of now. It will also be necessary to encourage research programs that lead to the knowledge of the structural changes through which Brazilian society has passed in past years, such as the makeup of a society of people highly polarized into the poor and the rich, an accentuated regional differentiation accompanied, however, by the homogenization of patterns of behavior, high level of migration and social mobility, separation of the market from labor and the new profile of industrial production, mobilization of civilian society, expansion of the political-representative systems, and so forth.

In addition to the guarantee of an adequate flow of resources in terms of volume and continuity in the long term, the government shall take care to implement other measures of a specific and complementary nature essential to scientific research. Detailing of such measures and the respective establishment of priorities shall be accomplished throughout the process of preparation of the Science and Technology Plan with the effective participation of the scientific community.

In general lines, those measures shall consider:

Reintegration of the Brazilian university into the process of resolving great national problems as a forum of debate, as a center of consultation and support to development and space of scientific creation and the training of human resources, preserving its autonomy;
recovery and updating of the installed physical capacity (laboratories and supplies, libraries and other installations);
granting of scholarships and other forms of support to research based on clearly established scientific objectives;
revision of the amounts of study scholarships in such a way that they will become an incentive to full-time dedication to research work;
increase and diversification of international exchange on the basis of the interests and needs of scientific and technological development;
improvement of the mechanisms of supervision and evaluation pursuant to criteria that take into consideration levels of quality and impacts on scientific development;
development of basic and applied research in priority areas to be detailed in the Science and Technology Plan;

increase in the number of researchers and the raising of the level of training; encouragement for the demand of national technologies suited to the needs of the country by means of the proper allocation of government investments.

2.1. Scientific Policy

The keystone of scientific and technological development is basic research, essential to the development of applied research, whether it be in the training of skilled human resources to supervise and participate in a rapid technological evolution, or because of its capacity to produce the necessary conceptual tools for applied research, or because of the humanistic values it defends and represents, without which progress remains reduced to a mere material increase. The social importance of science goes beyond the limits of economic questions and of the applicability of technology in the short term. Accumulated knowledge is an intrinsic value that must be preserved as part of a cultural heritage.

The government shall insure institutional, technical and financial conditions necessary for the development of scientific research and for the production of knowledge of a high level of quality.

Experimental research also requires great support in the form of special incentives capable of attracting new talent to this branch of research of primary importance. Because of cultural tradition and because of its relatively high cost, experimental research has not accompanied even the modest growth of our scientific system.

To relegate the importance of scientific research, or to postpone its realization, could mean the maintenance and worsening of the present situation in which the reliance on foreign technology appears as an attractive technical alternative and almost always the most economically feasible. Therefore, among other reasons, because it contains an important component of future technological application, scientific research should not be strictly subordinated to the impositions of the present. On the other hand, in order to establish parameters that will help in the selection of the areas of research to be developed, it is necessary to have a systematic and continued study in the field of the scientific and technological future.

2.2. Technological Policy

Priorities of technological policy derive from the role that technical knowledge may play in the increase of productive efficiency and in the resolution of social problems, thus contributing to reaching high rates of growth compatible with the needs of Brazilian society.

In the industrial sector, emphasis on technological development needs government support for the improvement of its areas. On the one hand, it needs the reorganization of the services of information and technological dissemination, which should provide the user updated news on technologies available on the market. On the other hand, the reorientation of technological services made by university and/or government institutes is necessary for servicing the companies of traditional sectors and which now seek to modernize and turn toward exporting.

It is important to emphasize that no technological policy will be successful if there is no effective participation of the productive sector in the effort of technological training. Whenever suitable the creation of own research centers must be encouraged because the company is a privileged place in the process of technological innovation.

In addition to that, a differentiated treatment is necessary in some areas linked to the more recent technologies, a selective support and incentives to sectors where participation of national capital will be decisive. Prominent are the areas of data processing, microelectronics, biotechnology, aerospace sector, resources of the sea, advanced chemistry, new materials and precision engineering.

In the agricultural-livestock sector, research should contribute to an increase in productivity together with a decline of national technological dependence and to a critical analysis of the processes implanted in the country with respect to the nature of the environment.

Attention to social needs such as education, health, housing, basic sanitation, nourishment and nutrition depends on specific incentives for research, as well as on their appropriation by the responsible segments. A large part of that knowledge is available, it being necessary, however, to make it of use by means of a widespread dissemination.

On the other hand, a clear indication of the work expected from the various agents involved in the productive process--state and private, national and foreign--and their participation in the national technological development effort, is an important part of the required institutional reorientation.

It must similarly be demonstrated that technological development lacks technical support personnel. The improvement and updating of schools and other institutions dedicated to the formation of skilled technicians and workers are determining factors in the quality of the results of technological research.

It is also imperative to take into account that an increase in production and the efficiency of the economy, in consonance with the principles of equity and autonomy, are inseparably linked to technological development.

The Ministry of Science and Technology shall act as the intermediary among the various segments linked to technological research, identifying and directing requirements. The action of promotion agencies and the instruments of policy now in use shall be improved, reversing the situation of uncoordination typical of the past.

The following are the guidelines for technological research:

Greater approximation between the productive sector and university and/or government institutes with a view to the establishment of common initiatives in which linkage of financing of projects to the existence of users for the technology generated shall be clear;

proper value given to free enterprise in the technological development process through the creation of opportunities for national service companies;

optimum incorporation of new process and product technologies of leading sectors through the creation of technological-industrial complexes that will result in a close relationship among businessmen, the research community and the state;

support for the export of services with a view to the consolidation of Brazilian technological development;

emphasis on projects that can contribute to the expansion of Brazilian exports in terms of new products, and an increase in competitiveness and overall value of quality products and services;

institutional reorganization and changes of legal nature, including fiscal and financial, providing incentives to domestic technological skill acquisition in the productive area, as well as to the approximation of the private sector of the universities with the government research institutes.

On the basis of the objectives and guidelines for government action expressed in this plan, the Ministry of Science and Technology shall prepare the Science and Technology Plan that will detail goals and establish institutional mechanisms and financial resources for their accomplishment. With the participation of all society, mistakes and obstacles, which have delayed and thwarted development in this area, shall be avoided. For this, it is of the greatest importance to have a strong scientific community that in its growth shall develop its own criteria and mechanisms of evaluation and control.

Development of national instrumentation for purposes of scientific and technological research will strengthen experimental research and become an important element of linkage between the research system and the productive sector.

Interest in scientific activity should be encouraged on the basis of improvement in education in sciences in primary and secondary grades and technical schools. Similarly, scientific and technological training should be strengthened at the graduate and postgraduate level in the universities and research institutes. Postgraduate studies, particularly postdoctorate, in centers of excellence of the most advanced countries, should be facilitated and encouraged.

Simultaneously with the immediate valuation of researchers and scholarship students, it is necessary to recognize the role of technical teams through the creation of a career compatible with the needs for scientific and technological skills of a modern nation. An adequate infrastructure of technical support is indispensable for any program of strengthening experimental research.

The establishment of a national research policy requires the cooperation of the community of researchers and also of the users of the results of research, public and private institutions. The transition to a democratic regime shall open new spaces to that cooperation, increasing the importance of systematic and independent thinking on the problems facing society. The recognition of the value of research by society is essential for the success of the policies indicated for the sector.

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

BRAZIL

SAO CARLOS MAGNET FOR ADVANCED R&D

Sao Paulo DADOS E IDEIAS in Portuguese Mar 86 pp 18-21

[Article by Ana Luiza Mahlmeister: "Pencils, Refrigerators and Laser"]

[Text] If a visitor recently arrived in the small city of Sao Carlos in the interior of Sao Paulo were to ask any resident which is the most typical agricultural product of the region, as an answer he would only receive an ironic smile.

Even though it is part of the central zone of the state, tied to agricultural-livestock and food processing activities, the vocation of Sao Carlos--200 km from the capital and with nearly 140,000 inhabitants--has established itself as being mainly industrial. Differing from the nearby cities of Rio Claro and Araraquara, great producers of milk and grains, Sao Carlos is proud of its main activity: sophisticated advanced technology. And it is already emerging as a scientific center like its more famous neighbors: Campinas and Sao Jose dos Campos. The reason is the development of advanced projects in laser technology and ceramic components with electronic application.

The industrial vocation of Sao Carlos did not appear in the era of informatics. For some years the city has had the Johann Faber Company, a maker of pencils, and Climax, maker of refrigerators, and so forth. But these factories were not responsible for the new profile of the city, but rather it was the installation in the decade of the 60's of two universities: University of Sao Paulo (USP) and the Federal University of Sao Carlos (UFSCar) with campuses that are devoted more to exact sciences. "The high university density brought to the area those industries that need specialized manpower and they encouraged the creation of a new park based on the university-company technological transfer," points out Prefect Dagnone de Melo.

The federal government itself has already begun to show an interest in the technological progress of Sao Carlos. At the end of last year, Minister of Science and Technology Renato Archer visited the "First Sao Carlos High Technology Company Fair" in the lobby of the UFSCar rectory, where various pieces of equipment manufactured in the city were exhibited.

Debureaucratization

To encourage this fledgling technological pole, the Sao Carlos High Technology Park Foundation (PAQTC-SP) was created at the end of 1984.

Proving the decisive influence of the university, it was not by chance that the person responsible for the idea of the foundation, Professor Milton Ferreira de Sousa, was the director of the local USP Physics Institute. In 1984 he left the post to establish his own company, Opto Eletronica, which began to manufacture instrumentation devices for laser equipment.

With the collaboration of the prefecture and the regional organization of the Sao Paulo State Industries Center (CIESP), the foundation became official in 1985 with five employees and a council of members linked to the companies and the university. The objectives, in addition to the creation of high technology companies, are those of obtaining resources from official agencies and to help in the bureaucratic part of the registration of new undertakings. "We seek to debureaucratize that slow process as much as possible," says Souza. Another important activity of the body, according to him, is that of always being attentive to new projects that may emerge in the universities and the evaluation of their industrial feasibility.

Lucrative Marriage

That university-company marriage, many times difficult in the rest of the country, worked well in Sao Carlos. "The companies do not dictate what we must research, nor does the university force the manufacture of products. It is the existence of a market lacking high technology in Brazil that determines that process," declares the vice rector of the UFSCar.

It was also that good relationship that determined the allocation of funds from the government for applied research through such bodies as the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CPNq) and the Funding Authority for Studies and Projects (FINEP), even during periods of "hard times," for the majority of the universities of the country.

After a little more than a year after its creation, the PAQTC-SP already supports several companies: Opto Eletronica, Engecer--Ceramic Projects and Products; MC--Monocristais; Cemapo--Maintenance Center for Optical Devices; SAC--Computer Services and Advisory Services; Compuarte Informatica, which produces software packages; Incibras--Brazilian Scientific Instrumentation and the Scientific Medical Device Industry, among many others.

Cemapo emerged from the experience of some students of the Optical Department of the USP Physics Department. Today the company is one of the only ones in the country that performs maintenance on high precision lens such as those on microscopes and telescopes. Other research using X-rays, of the same department, encouraged the creation of Incibras, which produces special lens for photographic uses (spectrophotometer) and special mirrors that do not reflect light, for dentistry purposes.

Guaranteed Space

Because that industrial progress is dynamic, although still recent, the initiatives for the creation of the technological complex of Sao Carlos are now beginning to take the first concrete steps. "Incentives such as tax exemptions to attract new companies and ease of financing and credit are still a promise," explains Prefect Melo.

However, according to him, those are steps subsequent to more urgent measures that the Prefecture and the state government--through PROMOCET--have already initiated. The first undertaking that should be completed in coming months is the Center for Industrial Development (CEDIN) in an area located as you leave the city near the UFSCar.

In a little more than 5,000 square meters, some industrial buildings are already being built--on land donated by the municipal prefecture--buildings that will house equipment for the production of high technology components.

The CEDIN space should house up to eight companies--selected from among the 17 already interested in establishing at the site--which will initiate a pilot production of components. "CEDIN will be the nursery for the companies," says Goulart. After passing through that semilaboratory phase--intermediate between a "university" and industrial production--and beginning to take the first steps in the market, according to Prefect Melo, there will be a transfer to another site that is already "reserved" in the city: High Technology Business Center (CEART) on the right of way of the railway of Sao Carlos, in an area donated by Ferrovia Paulista S.A. (FEPASA) through the intercession of the state government. At this time there is only a large empty space. But its more than 2.4 million square meters will seek to house the majority of the companies of the region "that survive the pilot phase of CEDIN and are successful," explains Melo.

After negotiations with the state government for the donation of the land, the prefect will now maintain more decisive contacts for what he considers the second step in the implementation of the technical pole.

"Because of the burgeoning of CEDIN and other companies from here, we shall be able to expand lines of financing through state banks," Melo points out. The first on the list to be interested in the undertaking was the National Economic and Social Development Bank (BNDES). However, the prefecture still intends to bring in the federal government so as to obtain fiscal assistance in importing equipment and credit for the construction of the industries of the Business Center.

Seduction of Outsiders

In addition to small companies, the city also expects to attract other companies from the interior of Sao Paulo to settle in the site. In order for that to happen, the complex must be more consolidated. "Thus, selling of the region will be done by itself, through its fame," concludes Melo.

Another important initiative, and one that also depends on federal funds for fixing its final timetable, will be the creation of the Sao Carlos Technical Center. The school is seeking to offer courses for the training of technologists at a higher level in chemical engineering, science of materials and instrumentation. It should train, at the same time as the universities, manpower of highly specialized technical level, who will be used immediately by the companies of the region. "With physical space, financing and manpower, we close the cycle of the technological complex," says Melo.

Distilleries

There are still other already-consolidated high technology companies in the region, that is, which no longer need the initial boost by the government. One example is CAD--Digital Control and Automation also created by former professors of the UFSCar Engineering Department. With the arrival of Professor Dyonisio Garcia Pinatti from France, with a master's program on the construction of process control equipment some professors joined in an association for the formation of CAD. Its objective was the creation of software and hardware for the control of industrial processes: Since the region near Sao Carlos is the site of many distilleries linked to PROALCOOL [Alcohol Production Program], "The company turned naturally to the agricultural-industrial sector," explains Dioraci Pinatti, one of the directors.

One of the first projects of CAD were some phases of automation of the Agua Limpia plant in Monte Aprazivel (SP). Today it can account for the automation of more than 15 distilleries, not only in the interior of Sao Pauli, but also in Parana, Minas Gerais and even in the Northeast. The company specialized in the production of 8-bit multiuser industrial microcomputers and larger equipment for sugar-alcohol production control.

For a complete service, it also provides software packages such as the System of Information and Administration for the Control of Distillery and Plant, Control of Harvest and Costs, and Control of Machinery and Vehicles.

Another product in the sale phase, and in which Telesp already has an interest, is an equipment for recording voice in memory and not on a tape as is done today, for use in companies which provide telephone services. The growth of CAD, according to Pinatti, causes it to intensify its activities, and it is already planning the production of 16 and 32-bit industrial microcomputers, in addition to equipment for the automation of footwear industries.

Laser and Microelectronics

The Sao Carlos technological complex promises to be very diversified in the generation of advanced technology. An example in the sector is Opto Eletronica the first company to affiliate itself with the foundation.

Its product came into being originally through applied research at the USP Physics Institute in the development of helium-neon **laser** tubes, and it already has ambitious plans for this year. Created in April last year, it was installed in a 7,000 square meter area for the manufacture of industrial lasers. Its plans include the manufacture of an optical reading scanner and even a laser printer. Pioneering in the sector has already given the company a contract with Itaotec for providing 1,000 laser tubes per month, beginning with June, and other instruments coupled to the scanner which shall be installed later by Itaotec. The company also supplies that product to more than 15 companies in the optical area and to manufacturers of medical-dentistry equipment, with a monthly production of 10,000 tubes.

Another company that also used applied research developed in the university was Sequisa. In that case, the USP transferred technology for the production of Polymers--a high resistance insulator based on cashew nut oil, which today is used on a large scale in telecommunications in the cables of TELEBRAS [Brazilian Telecommunications, Inc.].

First Steps

Still confined to the laboratories of the university, ENGECEC Produtos Ceramicos is the next company to come out of the oven. It was created by some professors of the Materials Department (DEMA) of the UFSCar, who had been working in high performance electronic ceramics research. The work resulted in the pilot production of PTC (semiconductor ceramics), used in electroelectronic equipment, and the PTZ ceramic for ultrasound medical equipment. Another project is the production of fine aluminum films for possible use as masking for integrated circuits.

"The lack of a market for those components led us to ask for financing from FINEP for the importing of equipment, already thinking of production on an industrial scale, and for help from the Foundation in the registration of Engecer," explains Professor Dulcina Ferreira de Souza, coordinator of the DEMA Ceramics Division. The company has already asked for a site in CEDIN and in the first phase--that of pilot production--equipment should be under-utilized until there is a more positive response from the market. Afterward, the company is already planning its move to a larger area, possibly to the future Sao Carlos Business Center, to initiate the actual production of components.

Unlike the example of her colleagues, the professor does not intend to leave the university to become an entrepreneur. "My idea is to be a stockholder in a company and to help in the transfer of technology whenever necessary," says the professor in charge of the ceramics group of the university. To her this will help the company to be always up to date in advanced ceramics technology. "The university is always a step ahead of industry and that is necessary for the development of new technologies. The company concludes by not advancing past a certain stage of production. However, in the case of electronic components, no company can stop for very long and that is why contact with the university is a question of survival," she explains.

Another two companies--Queramos and Cetebra--also concentrate on the production of special ceramics material. In the field of special metallic alloys, EDG and Engemar have a production for medical and dentistry purposes.

Policy for the Area

The vice rector of the UFSCar, Sebastiao Krui, emphasized that the university itself encourages the appearance of high technology industry "due to the support received by students in graduate courses, who go into the professional world with a prospect of market and product," he declares. In addition to technological transfer, the university also receives manpower from various companies for training in its departments, particularly in the areas of chemistry and materials engineering.

That propagation of companies also brought some problems. So much so that now the most specific concern "is that of discovering a form that will precisely establish how to make the university-company transfer and to establish the actions of the teaching body. Up until a short time ago we did not have that challenge before us," says Kuri. According to him, the university lacks an administrative structure prepared for the process that will provide it with more significant dividends. "Without an overall policy for the sector--at a federal level--in a short time the university could have a drained teaching staff," concludes Kuri.

Pure and Very Applied Research

"The constant technological transfer obtained through the performance of applied research in the university does not weaken scientific production of theoretical groups," explains the present director of the USP Physics Institute, Roberto Lobo. To him, the reason for the success of the university in Sao Carlos as the radiating pole of technology is the peaceful and integrated coexistence of those two traditionally rival groups.

He makes it a point to emphasize that pure, as well as applied research in the USP continues well ahead of industry, but because of the peculiarities of the country, it also owes industry answers in a shorter period. "The university is not a factory, but it has to show that it has the capacity for producing," says Lobo. Parallel with that vocation is the importance of the university to maintain a continuous nucleus of development in advanced research, since industry generally does not invest in that sector.

Optical Chip

There are many examples of technological transfer in the USP Physics Institute. But that did not prevent the development of projects for not so immediate application. At the side of research in helium-neon lasers, for example, used in Opto Eletronica, there are noncommercial lasers of high power, but which will basically have a special application in micro-electronics. "Electrical currents existing in chips today will be replaced

by optical components based on a laser," explains Assistant Professor Ricardo Rodrigues of the Optical Department

Another group is studying high resolution X-rays for the production of special mirrors. And they already are seeking a possible microelectronic application in the verification of errors, and tests in the installation of integrated circuits.

The electronics program of the institute is also extensive. Various groups devote themselves to new electronic materials, such as the chemical compound lithium niobate used in frequency filters and semiconductor films. Another laboratory, that of crystals, studies the growth of electronic grade silicon and already has two companies interested in that technological study: CETEC of Minas Gerais and Heliodinamica, a Sao Paulo company that produces solar cells.

Now one of the urgent requirements of the USP (more so than funds for research) according to Lobo, is that of obtaining financing channels for growth in physical space, building sites for placing equipment and other research groups.

Masks and Gallium Arsenate

Among those new groups, a nucleus was created in the USP that is seeking to concentrate in the research of a material unprecedented in Brazil: Gallium arsenate the raw material that should in the near future replace silicon in the manufacture of chips. For that purpose, a piece of MBE (Molecule Beam Epitaxy) equipment has already been purchased in Switzerland by FINEP and is expected this year at the Physics Department. The equipment will allow the growth of thin sheets of gallium arsenate a "technology still unprecedented in the country," explains Lobo.

Another outstanding event, according to him, is a recent agreement with the Informatics Technological Center (CTI). Work financed by the CNPq, also without precedent in Brazil, should be carried out together with the agency: Microlithography. The CTI will provide physical space for the installation of a large piece of equipment, a radiation synchrotron, used in the acceleration of electrons for the generation of ultraviolet and X-rays, which change digital signals into images. In addition to medical applications, the equipment is important in the preparation of chip shielding, technology that is not yet mastered by the country, which will begin to take the first steps in the area this year.

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

BRAZIL

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH AT PARAIBA UNIVERSITY

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[Article by Rodolfo Lucena: "Technology Grows in the Countryside"]

[Text] East Indians, Germans, Canadians, Americans and Brazilians from every corner of the country are working together in a small oasis of science and technology in the northeast countryside, 2,790 kilometers from Sao Paulo. On the banks of the Bodocongo Dam in the Borborema mountains was installed the campus of Campina Grande of Paraiba Federal University (UFPB). There, professors, candidates for doctorates and master's degrees of the departments of electrical engineering, systems and computers, perform research, work on theses and projects in areas such as artificial intelligence, scientific networks and software. And they obtain results such as the Camacari microcomputer for industrial automation, which today is being produced by the Calcom Informatics Company and it could be exported to the Soviet Union.

Even though separated from the Rio-Sao Paulo axis, the UFPB has distinguished itself because of its pioneering. The Systems and Computation Department (DSC) was created almost 15 years ago at the beginning of the decade of the 70's, and its graduating course in data processing technology in 1973 was one of the first four in the country. Five years later, there was the bachelor's course in computer science. The DSC works in close contact with the Electrical Engineering Department (DEE) through which two doctoral theses are being developed under the guidance of two professors of the university who hold doctorates earned abroad.

The evolution of the two departments, until they became a center of creation of high technology, took place little by little throughout the years. According to the head of the DSC, Marcus Costa Sampaio, a great deal was contributed to this by the policy that the dean of the UFPB, Linaldo Cavalcante, developed at the beginning of the past decade, sending professors to obtain masters and doctorate degrees abroad. The departments of electrical engineering and computer systems benefitted greatly from this and today they have a team of national and foreign stars.

Foreign Agreements

The first agreements, still current today, were with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the German GTZ (Technical Cooperation Society). In addition to these, agreements were realized with universities of France, England and Japan.

Professors of the UFPB (Campina Grande campus), left to perform their studies, make contact with more extensive libraries and to have more facilities in terms of equipment available with which to defend their theses. There is also what they call the "sandwich" doctorate, in which the candidate does the greater part of his studying abroad and returns to defend his thesis in Brazil, thus contributing toward strengthening his ties with the university.

The reverse also takes place quite frequently, contributing to the existence of a highly qualified teaching and research staff: Scientists from other countries go to Campina Grande to finish their work or to give orientations in thesis. Such is the case, for example, of the DSC, where the German, Dr Ulrich Schiel, from the University of Stuttgart participates with the group that carried out work in the area of data systems and data banks. In the DEE, the deputy coordinator of the post-graduate program in electrical engineering is Gurdip Singh Deep, a Ph.D. from the University of Kampur, India.

The coming to Brazil by Deep, and his establishment in Campina Grande, happened "by chance." A colleague from the University of Kampur was doing his doctorate work at the Canadian university of Waterloo and made contact with Brazilian doctorate candidates, after which he was invited to work at the campus of Campina Grande of the UFPB. He could not accept and when he returned to India, he told Deep about the invitation. That was in 1972, when he was 35 years of age. "Since I had nowhere to go," he says jokingly, "I decided to come here." Knowing nothing about Brazil, he embarked for Brazil with all his family and since that time "I have never managed to leave Campina Grande." Even though adapted to the country, he cultivates his traditions such as the use of a red turban.

Appeal of Work

Such a gathering of diverse personalities in a small world so far from the industrial, technological, scientific and cultural centers is explained by some of the professors as resulting from the very call to work. A city with slightly fewer than 300,000 inhabitants, without a beach or great entertainment to offer, in Campina Grande "there is nothing to do, therefore the thing is to work." The peaceful city helps the scientists to concentrate, although they engage in a large number of activities.

For example, Jose Antao de Moura of Pernambuco, is a professor in the DEE, where he orients doctoral thesis, participates actively in the network group

research and closely oversees the work of Infosoftware a young software company of the city. In turn, Marcus Costa Sampaio tells that no fewer than five times a year he travels to practically the entire North-Northeast, going from Alagoas to Rondonia, to teach courses and act as an adviser to state data processing companies and large private users, in addition to the programs of exchange with other universities such as the Federal University of Pernambuco.

"People leave here for any purpose, the personnel of the department are known throughout the region," says Sampaio.

Another important appeal for the university professors, whose net salaries in December varied from 4.5 to 9 million cruzeiros, without including possible scholarships or premiums for being chiefs of something, is the cost of living. "With what I earn," says one of them, "I could never have the standard of living in Sao Paulo that I have here": A house with a swimming pool, where he is already building a sauna. There is also the possibility during vacations of renting a good apartment on the beautiful beaches of Joao Pessoa.

Moreover, the tranquility of life is also attractive. Sampaio, a native of Ceara, for example, married a woman of Campina he met in Sao Paulo. When the children began to arrive "We decided to come here because life is calmer." Another colleague adds: "If someone has to meet a person at the airport (where flights from Sao Paulo arrive only twice weekly) he waits until the airplane circles over the city before leaving his house. It is never necessary to leave 10 minutes ahead of time for any appointment."

Network Group

Under these conditions, with the will to produce, research goes on despite the financial difficulties that generally affect the Brazilian universities. In the DSC and DEE, one of the projects that has been going on the longest is that of local and largescale networks.

"Creation of the network group began in 1978 with the training of human resources," says Wanderley Lopes de Souza, who holds a doctorate from the University of Montpellier, France, and is the deputy coordinator of the Computer Network Group (GRC). Professors of the DSC and DEE attended postgraduate courses at the universities of Waterloo, Canada, and Paris VI, France. When they returned in 1983, the idea of creating the network group became a fact and today it has five doctors, two candidate doctors and one master.

In the area of local networks, the interests of the group is in fiber optics communications and the development of systems for evaluating performance. This is also one of the interests in the long-distance network, as well as the validation and implantation of communications protocols.

Disappointment with Hardware

The first idea, recalls Wanderley Lopes de Souza, was the implantation of a local network in Campus II, but the problem was hardware--expensive because the material had to come from the south. They then decided to isolate minor problems, which could be done with available resources. "I, myself, despite my training in hardware, am very disappointed, although there are people in the group who do not think as I do," admits Wanderley Souza.

Because of those conditions, one of the fields in which the most work is being performed is the creation of a performance evaluation system for local networks--"We have five or six master's theses on the subject." The objective is a more flexible system that may be operated by even someone who does not have a great theoretical base. Such hardware, the professors believe, would awaken the attention of the manufacturers.

"There is interest by the industry," Anao Moura asserts, "but personnel have a certain antipathy for performance evaluation systems because they are very burdensome in data banks." The system should be "user friendly" and easily evaluate elements such as response time and the reliability level of the net.

Among other projects, the GRC interacts with the Artificial Intelligence Group (GIA) in the use of the Prolog language for writing a compiler in Estelle, a language for the specification of net protocols. Part of the work initiated last October has already been completed, using a Nexus 16-bit microcomputer. In a second phase, the system should be passed to the IBM 4341 of the CPD of the DSC. For that, however, they are waiting for the arrival of a Prolog interpreter from IBM, already requested from the company.

Specialists in Ophthalmology

In turn, the GIA concentrates mainly in the field of specialist systems (SE). It has already developed one for the diagnosis of mechanical failures in automobile motors. It is a prototype which, depending on the interest of the user, could be adapted to perform tasks such as those of diagnosing failures in electrical or telephone networks.

This was one of the first works of the group, which began its activities in 1984. However, interest has been aroused in other areas: The personnel of the medical school of Joao Pessoa and a doctor in ophthalmology of the Paraiba capital have already sought out the group, requesting the development of a specialist system in the area of ophthalmology. "Dr Antonio Medeiros Batista is willing to work with us to create a knowledge base," reports Professor Helio De Menezes Silva of the GIA. And there is already a thesis being developed on the subject. According to Menezes Silva, the interest is in creating a program for 16-bit micros. The department, he says, expects to receive two micros compatible with the IBM PC, which they ordered from the CNPq [National Scientific and Technological Council]. The equipment will be "crammed" with peripherals obtained through an agreement with the German government.

Menezes Silva points out the position of the group of always seeking to develop projects that may have commercial use. "When something is good, it is used. It is good only if it is useful," he adds. It is with this objective that they are working in perfecting a basic Prolog interpreter for the IBM 4341 in order to bring it up "very close to the state of the art in Europe." Another project underway is that of an environment for specialist systems, a generic software that will serve as a tool for developing a large number of SE's. Software is also an area of interest of the two other DSC groups working with information systems and data banks and with applied numerical analysis.

Temporary Information

Prominent among the projects underway, is that of developing tactics that will allow the inclusion of temporary aspects in data banks and, together with the GIA, perform research on theoretical problems and on the processing of incomplete, imprecise and temporary information. "Data banks are static and either have or do not have a certain information," explains the German Ulrich Schiel. "The idea of the group is to develop a system that will allow the storage of imprecise, incomplete, dynamic information."

The search for accuracy is at the center of the work by researchers of the area of applied numerical analysis. Their objective is that of supplying computational tools for the development and analysis of algorithms for the numerical solution of mathematical problems.

Work began in 1977, says Professor Mario Hatori, with the analysis of a package imported from the University of Toronto. Five years later, the three professors who make up the group finally obtained their own educational software. This was the SEDAN (Educational Software for Numerical Analysis), an educational library of numerical methods developed in FORTRAN, which since then is being used by the students and academic community of the UFPB, with some complementary additions. Its last edition should be issued in this semester.

The release of another library is foreseen for the middle of this year. It is the BITAN (Transportable Library of Numerical Algorithms), developed together with the University of Ceara. In Campina Grande, the professors used an IBM 4341, while in Fortaleza, they used a DEC 10.

The group's plan now is to place that scientific software in national equipment, which will make it possible to expand the number of users and also open conditions for BITAN and SEDAN to be placed on the market.

Image and Voice Processing

Some DSC groups, such as those of networks, are working together with the DEE, which according to Professor Gurdip Singh Deep, has three groups active in the area of electronic instrumentation and process control; digital signal, picture and voice processing, digital and analogical

instrumentation and systems of micros for applications of data control and acquisition. The most recent work is in the digital processing of signals, pictures and voice. The group is still in formation, with the return of researchers who were studying abroad (Germany and Canada). The work seeks an improvement in the quality of pictures obtained from signals, having, among others, applications in medicine (computerized tonography, ultrasonography, and so forth). A system is now being used with a 280 microprocessor, but the DEE should receive two Vax 750, the result of an agreement with the GTZ of Germany.

However, until the equipment arrives, the DEE has to deal with things as it can. It is organizing the CPD [Presumably Data Processing Center] for the installation of the Vax and there are two Camacari micros there already. It is in the instrumentation laboratory, however, that the problems of the university are most obvious: At the side of equipment in the planning stage, and other already finished, is one small TK 2000, the property of Deep's son, used there.

Internal Contrast

Therefore, more than the apparent paradox of high technology growing in the Northeast countryside under some not too favorable conditions compared to the opulence of the south, the contrast exists within the University itself, where research is inhibited by the lack of resources and even of understanding by the financing agencies.

At any rate, the professors have managed to obtain positive results, even in the dissemination of the culture of data processing. The network group, for example, held the second Brazilian symposium on that area in Campina Grande in 1984. Within the university itself there is the promotion--sometimes without the knowledge of administrative bodies--of extension courses and seminars that fulfill the objective of generating revenues so that the departments may be able to equip themselves.

They are ways of helping the university remain the generator of science, technology and goods for society; ways of maintaining access to the challenge of research, which some professors do not hesitate to classify also as a "spirit of amateurism." They are things that interlink so that the work at Campus II (Campina Grande) of the UFPB may have the appeal it has for that group of scientists and cause Marcus Costa Sampaio to summarize the position of many of them: "People do not leave here because they do not want to leave for any reason."

A Link between the University and Industry

"Knowledge cannot remain cloistered; it has to be placed at the disposal of society. And if that is not done, society has to ask for an accounting because after all it is society that has to pay." In a former cloistered cell, in a building that was once a redemptorist convent, Jose Antao Beltrao de Moura, technical director of the Electroelectronic Technology Institute (ITEEL), explains the reason for the creation of the body: It

is to be a link between the university and industry and create conditions so that scientific research can become a reality and effectively fulfill a social function.

"There is the problem of prototypes which never become products," adds the scientific director of ITEEL, Joao Marques de Carvalho. The reason for that, he explains, is that there is not much experience in the university in the transfer of technology. This, moreover, is made difficult by the structure of the university itself, which is not very quick in attending to the needs of industry, things like faithful compliance with deadlines and contracts.

In 3 years of activities, ITEEL has already accumulated a reasonable experience in this area, having been responsible, for example, for the development of the Camacari micro, today manufactured by the Calcom Informatica Company. It also developed several other products such as the gain control for audio processing for a local company, APEL--Electronic Applications--and it made the control system for the production and packaging units in the Jose Carlos S.A. Company, which produces Sao Braz coffee and is the first company in the payment of ICM [Tax on Movement of Merchandise] of Paraiba.

ITEEL was founded on 28 December 1982 by the Secretariat of Planning of the state of Paraiba, the National Scientific and Technological Council (CNPq) and the UFPB. Its general objectives are those of offering high technology services that do not exist in the region, suggesting the adoption of new or more suitable technologies, proposing to the university the development of processes or equipment that the market needs, developing research and interacting with universities, research centers and independent researchers, so that the prototypes developed may be made suitable for manufacture.

Small Team

It operates with a small team--in addition to an administration of six persons, it has only about 10 employees, including support personnel--however, they are all highly skilled. Carvalho and Moura, for example, have doctorates from the University of Waterloo in Canada. Canadian Jacques Sauve, a visiting professor of the UFPB, has a doctorate from the University of Ottawa. Of the other three members of the technical team, one has a doctorate from the University of Paris VI, another is a master from the University of Waterloo and the third is completing his doctorate work at the University of Stuttgart, in Germany.

The ITEEL, explains Antao Moura, does not have an approved budget. "It is more a matter of looking to see what can be obtained for financing projects and paying personnel. Financing depends on whether the projects are underway, and when the projects are in the study phase for approval, the SEPLAN [Planning Secretariat] has a fund for maintenance."

The building is small. The institute occupies a two-story wing with 10 rooms in each of them, of an old redemptorist convent where the Redemptorist Technical School functions today. In order to use the space, some of the old cells for the members of the religious order had to be knocked down. Two laboratories (hardware and software) and an auditorium were built, and rooms were adapted for personnel.

Data Communications

The projects, explains Carvalho, are carried out very much in the terms of training the technical team--always granted and paid for by the university. The first administration, for example, worked in the area of electronic instrumentation, now passed on to APEL. Now, the command of ITEEL is in the hands of the personnel who make up the network group of the DSC. For that very reason, the most important projects are precisely in the area of data communications--the development of techniques of specification and validation of protocols, using the Prolog language; transport protocols for local networks based on operational system Unix, and in the area of hardware, interfaces in communications, including a synchronous analogical modem for local applications that will operate at up to 9,600 bps.

To go more in depth into this work, personnel expect the arrival of two large-capacity computers--a 64,000 and a 9,000 system of HP. Today ITEEL used a Nexus micro from Scopus, one Naja 800 of 8 bits, and the PDP 11, which is of the CPD of the Department of Systems and Computation.

Despite financial difficulties, which forced the installation of a cathode ray tube on a small bench, part of an old project for the development of a video terminal which has been abandoned, prospects are optimistic for Joao Marques Carvalho. "In addition to the projects under development, a system of advisors to the State Data Plan, should become a reality. This would include the training of personnel and development. This will happen unless some calamity occurs that drains the resources of the Paraiba government: In 1984 it was the peak of a drought of 5 years. Last year it was floods. I hope that nothing happens now," the scientific director of ITEEL says hopefully.

Companies are still Few and Small

Ten years ago, Professor Jose Accioly developed a system that allows the use of telephone lines for the transmission of other signals simultaneously with voice. He assembled a prototype of the equipment; it worked and with two partners he decided to put it into production. That was how APEL--Electronic Applications--was born. It was one of the first companies emerging on the basis of studies, research and theses carried out in the campus of Campina Grande of the UFPB.

Because of various problems--prominent among which was the bias and even discouragement against researchers and professors having any commercial or industrial productive activity outside the university sphere--the spread of the pioneer effort remained inhibited until recently. At any rate, there emerged important undertakings for the region and even for the country.

In this case we are speaking of the interest of Calcom Group of Bahia. It already has 10 companies in areas such as the extraction and processing of minerals, agroindustry, sale and manufacturing of products for drilling oil wells. It is now interested in supporting research being carried out in the DSC of the campus of Campina Grande for the development of a micro-computer for industrial applications.

We speak of Camacari, a university project that was transformed into a product in the ITEEL with the partial financing of the Calcom.

At the end of the project, Calcom Tecnologia--created in September 1984 for activities in the area of informatics--took with it, together with the product, some of the principal technicians who worked in the development of Camacari, among them Engineer Alex Vieira Pinto, today one of its directors. Production began in May 1985 and today the company already has four versions of the Camacari, 10 systems installed, and it was one of the principal stars of Expo Brazil-Moscow 85, creating prospects for exporting the equipment to the Soviet Union.

Its main customers are in the petrochemical center of Camacari in Bahia and for that reason the company moved the "main part of production" there, according to the manager of the Calcom Participacoes e Empreendimentos holding company, Claudio Carvalho. However, it maintains its links with Campina Grande, where it has a branch office that remains with the part of development and interaction with the university. The company has 30 employees today and its sales during the past fiscal year were nearly 30,000 ORTN's [National Treasury Readjustable Fonds]. According to Carvalho, this year the prospect is that 100,000 or even 150,000 ORTN's will be reached. Thus, in nearly 4 years, it may begin to obtain a return of the 600,000 ORTN's invested in the project.

Software's Turn

The need for smaller investments than those made by Calcom, was one of the appeals for the professors and former university students that led them to go to work in the area of software.

That is what Antonio Carlos Salles, 26, one of the owners of Datashopping, did. He asserts that it services nearly 90 percent of the companies of the region that use microcomputers. Salles, when he was studying to complete his work for a bachelor's degree in computer science, began to perceive that "personnel were going into the area of micros." The problem was that there was no one producing software and that the users were forced to buy sealed packages. Thus, together with Elmano Cavalcante, who was the

the manager of the largest CPD of the region, that of the Sao Braz Company, he left to take up that market.

"We entered the line. We rented a room. We did not have a desk or telephone. We spent 6 months just working. It was the first software house of Campina Grande, perhaps even in the North-Northeast. The first customer was Felinto, a company in the sugar branch, in which Salles spent an apprenticeship. Datashopping provided an administrative system, which was later also sold to Cartume Vilarin.

As of that time, they developed systems of accounts payable and receivable and of accounting, today the mainstay of the company's sales. All software, says Salles, are developed in a personalized manner. And now, with an average sales of 30 million cruzeiros per month, the two partners of Datashopping no longer need to "give short courses on Basic" to insure the operation of the company. On the contrary, training is given at the customers sites using their equipment.

Prospects, says Salles, are very favorable for the company. In addition to the Dismac and Itaupec Companies, which already have representatives in Campina Grande, Prologica should also move into the city. And the Gradiente Company has informed that it is going to send a micro expert in the MSX line so that Salles and Cavalcante can develop software for the equipment.

Free Training

In the same area, the Infosoft Company is quite a bit younger: It was created last June with the support of its elder sister, Infocom of Recife, which provides advisers and consultants to local companies in the area of networks, Unix operational system, specialist areas and Prolog language. Infocom exists since July 1983 and it is the one that has generated some profits, reinvesting them now in supporting Infosoft.

Both companies have the collaboration of professors of the DSC. The most active participants are Antao Moura, a native of Pernambuco from Recife, and Canadian Jacques Sauve. The two met when Antao was working on his doctorate in the University of Waterloo and Sauve, in addition to the challenge working in another country posed, had a sentimental reason for coming to Brazil: He married a girl from Campinas, whose father was also working for his doctorate in Canada.

They are the soul of Infosoft, which today, with eight employees, concerns itself in a personal manner. For that reason it began a program of free training, having a first class with approximately 10 students. At the same time, Antao and Sauve work in the development of packages that work under the Edix operational system, in addition to the project of a nucleus for specialist systems.

There is also the plan for the creation of a third company, Infoware, which should operate in the area of supplies, particularly in buildings for CPD's. Since they work "directly" in terminals, the two professors feel the unsuitability of the conventional buildings for this activity. For that reason, in their leisure hours--which are also working hours, as Moura says--they have thought of how to improve the building of the CPD's. And a friend is dealing with the design, the specification of the project.

Repaid Pioneering

To make real, to turn into a product something that was only a university prototype, was the reason for the creation of APEL--Electronic Applications.

The first equipment, a system for the transmission of music at the same time as voice on the same telephone line, continues to bear fruit. It is installed in 26 cities, including in the more important capitals, it was reported by Alberto Vieira dos Anjos, director-technician of the company. The system is installed in the telephone exchange and the users of the background music service pay for it together with their telephone bill.

The success of the equipment led the company to develop new versions. A system is being planned for the simultaneous use of the telephone and telex and there are plans for developing a product for the simultaneous transmission of data and voice.

However, the mainstay of the company, reports Vieira dos Anjos, is the equipment for radio broadcasting stations. Apel produces practically everything necessary for a station except the transmitting part. They are sound consoles equalizers, audio control centers, and so forth. And for a good part of the development of these products, it had the help of personnel of the Electronic Engineering Department of the University.

In the shed of about 600 square meters, 17 employees are working, mainly technicians from the Redemptorist Technical College. And Vieira dos Anjos complains that when the labor force reaches a more advanced state through practice, "Along comes a multinational and takes away my personnel. I am not in a position to compete in terms of salaries." Thus, the cycle continues, and in order to insure better earnings to the employees, after they have concluded their tasks they are allowed to perform some private services in the branches of the company. Last year Apel sold nearly 1.5 billion cruzeiros worth and Vieira dos Anjos expects to attain a real gain of 30 to 40 percent this year.

8908

CSO: 3699/7

CHILE

POLITICIANS POLLED ON CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS ISSUE

Santiago ANALISIS in Spanish 8-14 Apr 86 pp 21-24

[Article by Maria Eugenia Camus and Maria Jose Luque]

[Text] Pinochet and the Constitution: Until Death Do Them Part?

A few days apart, Pinochet's representative to the Government Junta, Lt Gen Julio Canessa, and Minister Francisco Javier Cuadra set forth the government's and the army's position on an issue that has prompted several newsworthy events over the past few weeks: the 1980 constitution and amendments to it. Both spokesmen demanded "open and resolute," "express and public" recognition of the constitution as a precondition for any talks on the subject.

The timing of their remarks must be related to the Merino affair and his desire to amend the constitutional provision on the Armed Forces' voting rights. "The comments by Canessa and Cuadra," an opposition leader noted, "clearly indicated that that minor detail cannot even be discussed."

It also has something to do with the latest pressure from the United States, to which Pinochet had already responded, explaining why we Chileans "are different" from the Americans; among other reasons, "the 1980 constitution was approved by the Chilean people, whereas the U.S. Constitution was imposed in 1787."

Canessa's and Cuadra's messages were also addressed to the opposition, in particular to the people who have opted for the strategy of negotiations. Canessa noted: "In strictly theoretical terms, I think that the number one requirement for those who are calling for this is to recognize the existing constitution openly and resolutely, because otherwise there is no basis for discussing anything. As a logical consequence, they must recognize the current constitutional government and, finally, take a clear stand on Marxist totalitarianism."

Two days later, Cuadra echoed Canessa's words. He asserted that the constitution had been approved in an act of popular sovereignty, which "opposition sectors have not acknowledged sufficiently so far. Thus, this is the central and key point of the issue: the way in which the democratically

expressed will of the people is respected. Once this recognition is voiced expressly and explicitly, not through subterfuges and hedging that only enables people to maintain ambiguous positions, then the issue can be dealt with in greater depth."

The "proof of love" that recognizing the constitution entails is not a new demand. Late last year Cuadra took it upon himself to voice it more subtly when he asserted that in 1989 "there will be a change in the legal system, but this will not be the end of the government. The regime will remain on, and it would be a very good idea for people to realize this clearly."

The mechanisms that enable the regime to continue beyond 1989 are provided for in the constitution, which is practically unamendable before 1989. A unanimous Government Junta decision is required. The representative of the army, Pinochet's subordinate, would need only to object, and the constitution would remain intact.

The mechanisms designed for amending it after 1989 are even more cumbersome and complicated and seem to have been devised precisely to prevent any possibility of reform (see interview with Luis Maira).

The government's all-out defense of its constitution is, in other words, a defense of its ground rules for staying in power, ground rules drawn up and imposed on the country through a plebiscite that was won before it was even held. As far as the regime is concerned, discussing the constitution is like discussing power.

The Plebiscite

"I call on Almighty God to enlighten all Chileans as they make this extremely important decision for our history and to continue guiding this beloved nation along the great, free and sovereign path that the founding fathers forged for it."

With this entreaty, broadcast over the national network on the night of 10 August 1980, the general drew to a close the speech in which he announced to 10 million Chileans that after 7 years of discussions, studies and drafting, the Military Junta had finally promulgated the complete text of the new constitution that was to govern the country's destiny. For those who were interested in acquainting themselves with its contents, General Pinochet reported that "it will be published tomorrow in the official gazette."

Chilean voters had not been involved in this lengthy process of proposing and debating drafts of the constitution. Only individuals appointed by the Military Government took part; Pinochet described them as the "wisest men in our country."

In the midst of a state of emergency, Decree Law 3,465, signed by the members of the junta, appeared in the Official Gazette on 11 August; it regulated the plebiscite that was to be held on 11 September. All Chileans over the age of 18 and resident aliens were obliged to vote in it.

Pinochet emphasized that in this way the people of Chile themselves would decide whether "to turn back or to continue along a path of progress, justice and freedom."

A Fraud

The "Group of the 24," which consisted of constitutionalists and jurists, was the first to charge that the plebiscite, which they described as a consultation, was designed "to perpetuate the autocracy for a quarter century of dictatorial government."

On 14 August, the officers of the Christian Democrat Party, headed by Andres Zaldivar, described the plebiscite as an "act of extreme violence and an affront to the country" and flatly rejected the choice Pinochet was offering: "Me or chaos."

The statements supporting a yes vote and the calls for a no vote were heard in rapid succession during the rest of August. "Under the pretext of consulting the people on a constitution, the aim is to prolong the dictatorship by improving its facade," Patricio Aylwin remarked.

"The Board of Directors of our organization," declared Domingo Duran, a farm leader, "has called on its members to vote yes in the plebiscite and has reaffirmed its support for President Pinochet." "The plebiscite is veritable extortion of the people and the workers, because under the pretext of approving a constitution General Pinochet is getting himself elected president for 17 more years," said Eduardo Rios, from the Group of 10 and the current president of the CDT. "The majority of citizens will back the Military Government. Above and beyond any point-by-point analysis of the text, we need to give our country modern institutions in keeping with current realities," stated German Riesco. "This is not, properly speaking, a plebiscite; it is just a means of prolonging the current government regime indefinitely and of denying the country what it requires: a genuine democratic move towards an institutional system," stated Rene Abeliuk.

In a public statement on 23 August, the Episcopal Conference reminded the government that it was its duty "to give sufficient assurances so that the result of the plebiscite is not challenged," adding that "when a citizen votes, he wants to know with complete certainty what he is voting for."

The statement by the bishops might have had some influence on government circles. The opposition received authorization on 24 August to stage a public event in the Caupolican Theater; the only speaker was to be former President Eduardo Frei, who was denied radio and TV coverage for his speech. This was described as convincing proof of the plebiscite's illegitimacy because the government was denying freedom of speech to those who were calling for a no vote. A request for a television debate between Pinochet and Frei was also denied.

Some 8,000 people filled Caupolican Theater on 27 August. Another 30,000 were crowded around nearby, tightly cordoned off by the Carabineros. In his address, Frei, in addition to proposing a one-on-one debate with Pinochet,

offered the following alternative to the junta's plan: the immediate establishment of a civilian-military government that would convene a Constitutional Assembly or a commission open to the entire range of ideologies to draft a new constitution and put it to a plebiscite.

DINACOS responded to the former president, pointing out that "the government does not accept Mr Frei's proposals," thus ending the debate.

On 11 September, according to the official vote count, 67.06 percent of the voters approved the constitution, and 30.17 percent rejected it. "I was deeply moved and I got a lump in my throat," General Pinochet remarked when he heard the results. Intoxicated with victory, which he called a triumph over Marxism, he told Chileans of the path that the country would take: "One of every seven Chileans will have a car, one of five a TV, and one of seven a telephone," in addition to a million new jobs and 900,000 new housing units. All thanks to the magic of the new constitution that was consolidating "freedom."

The Constitutional Assembly

The general's promises never amounted to more than that. The disappointed people who believed them joined with the poorest segments of society to stage the first nationwide protests in 1983.

Strengthened by the rallies, the opposition made significant strides in its organization. Three years after the constitution took effect, the various political parties, from the "democratic" Right to the Left, grouped together in three opposition blocs: the Democratic Alliance (AD), the Popular Democratic Movement (MDP) and the Socialist Bloc (BS).

In their respective declarations of principles, they called for Pinochet's resignation, a provisional government, a Constitutional Assembly and an end to the state of emergency. "These measures would establish the conditions needed for the prompt operation of democratic institutions, particularly the call for a Constitutional Assembly made up of the various political persuasions and the adoption of an electoral system that would insure a free, well-informed and genuine expression of the will of the people," the AD manifesto indicated.

Amid a growing and increasingly resolute social mobilization in support of these proposals, one segment of the opposition began a dialogue with the government at the home of Archbishop Juan Francisco Fresno. One of the points under discussion was the repeal of Article 24 and everything having to do with the constitutional periods for the transition.

Pinochet himself spelled out the scope of the dialogue. While his interior minister, Sergio Onofre Jarpa, conversed with the AD officers, the general bared his real intentions: "They can talk all they want, but the time periods set in the constitution will not change." The dialogue was over.

Two Refusals

Two years later, as the nation grew polarized and the Church appealed repeatedly for reconciliation, this same sector of the opposition signed the National Accord for the Transition to Full Democracy. It was joined this time on the Right by parties that had hitherto supported the government, such as the MUN [National Unity Movement] and the PN [National Party], and on the Left by parties belonging to the BS. The document, which its signers described as "testimony for assuring a peaceful evolution towards democracy," made major concessions in comparison to the AD's demands in the 1983 dialogue. As a precondition for negotiations it demanded neither Pinochet's resignation, nor the formation of a provisional government, nor the establishment of a Constitutional Assembly, nor the repeal of the constitution's temporary articles, especially Article 24.

According to a study by the Political-Institutional Analysis Workshop, neither the transition nor the blueprint for a future society as set forth in the National Accord (AN) represented a break with the current judicial and political order; rather, the accord clearly, albeit implicitly, recognized the 1980 constitution. The document indicated that it respected the current presidential term set forth in the constitution because it was not proposing any changes in the periods until 1989.

Pinochet rejected this second proposal in spite of its concessions. During the Christmas season he replied to the signers during his conversation with Cardinal Fresno: "Let's change the subject," he said.

And Now What?

Over the past week the government and the army have reiterated a point that to them has never been in dispute: the validity of the 1980 constitution is nonnegotiable. Any prospect for further dialogue between the government and the sectors that it defines as "representative" must be predicated on recognition of the existing institutional system.

In the face of this virtual challenge, ANALISIS asked the opposition leaders who signed the accord and the president of Democratic Intransigence whether they were willing to accept the constitution in negotiating a democratic solution.

Carlos Briones, Secretary General of the Socialist Party, a Member of AD

"We do not accept the constitution, for two fundamental reasons: the way that it was approved and its intrinsically antidemocratic content. Mr Canessa is taking a position of strength that we cannot accept. To balance the positions of strength, we are in favor of the social mobilization, to counterbalance the dictatorship so that we can then negotiate on an equal footing.

"To take a stand like Mr Canessa's is to place a constitutional noose around our necks, which we cannot accept. The 1980 constitution is practically unamendable; it is designed to keep Pinochet in power and to preserve the autocratic military regime beyond Pinochet. Because tomorrow we could have

Pinochetism without Pinochet. To demand that we recognize the constitution as valid before sitting down to negotiate means closing off the possibility of negotiations. Theoretically, as General Canessa says, we feel that in dealing with the constitutional problem, which has been raised so emphatically, we cannot rule out the possibility of negotiations with the Armed Forces. If we were to accept the categorical terms in which Mr Canessa has voiced his opinion, there would be no possibility whatsoever of carrying forward a negotiation that would allow for a civilized solution to Chile's problem."

Manuel Sanhueza, President of Democratic Intransigence and of the Group of 24

"I find it unacceptable for a democrat to recognize what they call the Political Constitution of the State, which is nothing more than a set of provisions imposed and enforced by force of arms. By no means can it be regarded as a Political Constitution, inasmuch as neither its genesis nor its content is consistent with what the people want. Hence, we regard both its temporary and permanent provisions as antidemocratic and illegitimate.

"To recognize the constitution is to legitimize it, even though it is based on the National Security Doctrine and on economic liberalism. Both are coercive, antidemocratic and dictatorial ideas. Therefore, recognizing it means ceasing to be a dissident and becoming an opponent within the system. In other words, getting on the dictatorship's bandwagon.

[Question] Don't you think that accepting the constitution as a basis for negotiations could hasten a democratic solution?

[Answer] I don't think so. It is indispensable in Chile's case to end the government, but this is not enough. If we want to achieve democracy, it is essential to end the regime, which is not done by recognizing the constitution and endeavoring to turn it into something democratic. I don't understand what the so-called negotiations are all about, given what has been said. If they mean establishing a system of transition with the government, because the constitution does not provide for one, such a transition could never lead to democracy, because the people who imposed the so-called 1980 constitution do not want democracy.

Armando Jaramillo, President of the Republican Party

"If we go by the way in which it was proposed and by the fact that the overwhelming majority of the country was not involved in drafting it, we would obviously have to declare that the constitution is null and void because of its origin and the way in which it was put to a plebiscite. Nevertheless, it is a factor; whether we like it or not, the constitution exists. To say that we do not recognize it is simply to close our eyes to the facts. I think that recognizing this constitution is a much smaller price to pay to get Pinochet to leave than taking a purist approach and disavowing the constitution if this means that Pinochet and his government will remain a single day longer in office in this republic.

[Question] In exchange for what, in a negotiation, would you be willing to accept this constitution?

[Answer] In exchange for the promptest amending of the constitution. In exchange for immediate acceptance of the National Accord's immediate steps for a transition to full democracy, in other words, respect for human rights.

[Question] What has changed in the country to make this constitution, which was flatly rejected yesterday, something to be negotiated today?

[Answer] Although it might sound sarcastic, it is because this government is doing the country more harm every day. It is important to defend certain principles when the situation is normal. But when the abuses are so atrocious, the poverty and unemployment so extreme, and the night we are living through so bleak, we tend to forget about principles somewhat in exchange for being able to toss off the heavy yoke that we have been laboring under for more than 12 years.

Enrique Silva, President of the Radical Party

"We feel that the 1980 constitution lacks legitimacy. This is not an arbitrary position. To us it lacks legitimacy in two ways. Its origin is illegitimate, and much of its content is antidemocratic, especially its temporary articles. To us, at present, the constitution has been imposed on us by force, not by the sovereign will of the Chilean people. The claim that the constitution was approved by a majority of Chileans is a fallacy. The Chilean people all know what the vote was like. We realize that certain military quarters start from the assumption that it was approved and, therefore, that they must abide by it. Now then, we base our positions on the facts. Something that was imposed has been governing Chilean life for 5 years now. This fact must cease to exist, as we realize that much of its content runs counter to the Chilean people's concept of democracy. We cannot conceive of negotiating over the constitution, over reforms that are insignificant. There are much more substantive things that cannot continue to govern us. Therefore, we feel that the people themselves have a legitimate right to decide in a plebiscite how the road back to democracy ought to begin."

Jaime Castillo Velasco, Vice President of Christian Democracy and Chairman of the Chilean Human Rights Commission

"The point is not to accept or reject the constitution to achieve a separate goal. The problem has been improperly addressed. No one can be required to accept or reject a constitution, inasmuch as the constitution is a de facto issue; it exists, and its provisions apply to all citizens, which must abide by them. I have no reason to impose acceptance when I am entitled to disagree. This is what occurs to me in this instance. The way in which many of its fundamental tenets were established is antidemocratic. I will always feel that way. Therefore, the issue of accepting or rejecting the constitution is fictitious. What matters for the purposes of potential negotiations are the specific political conditions at the time. A compromise might just consist of amending the constitution. I think that there must be a definite guarantee that some fundamental institutional issues will be modified; for example, all the antidemocratic provisions must be abolished. The important thing is that negotiations between an opposition and a regime must be based on the regime's political willingness. Under present conditions

I think that it is impossible to negotiate a democratic solution because the regime or its authorized spokesmen have said that they do not want to talk or to change anything. Therefore, saying that the constitution must be accepted before there can be talk of negotiations is a poor approach to the problem."

Luis Maira, Coordinator of the Christian Left

"We do not recognize the validity of the constitution. Aside from the fact that it was drafted by a private commission consisting solely of Pinochet's direct supporters and without representatives of the country's political views, it was approved under completely irregular conditions, under a state of emergency, without democratic debate and without any alternative offered. We feel that its text is incompatible with political democracy as it is understood throughout the world and where there is an unfettered exchange of political ideas and opinions, changes in government, respect for human rights, a monitoring of the authorities and legal limits to political authority. The 1980 constitution does not provide for these conditions. It is antidemocratic because Article 8 bans the free expression of ideas; this is absurd because it punishes ideas regardless of the actions that might stem from such ideas. The constitution is a legal cover for an authoritarian regime and represents the installation of a restricted democracy.

"The big mistake that the drafters of the constitution made was that they went too far. The authoritarianism is so extreme, the period of the dictatorship is so drastically long, the desire to impose a minority viewpoint and to close off any possibility of reform is so obvious that these very excesses are what enable us today to reject the text with greater pedagogical clarity.

"The regime cannot be changed because of the very provisions enshrined in the constitution. There is a great deal of talk about amending it, but the constitution cannot be amended. During the so-called transition period (1981-89), constitutional power rests with the Government Junta, which must be in unanimous agreement to make reforms. General Pinochet is represented by a subordinate and he voices his opinion directly through the army's representative. General Pinochet need only say no, and the constitution cannot be amended during this period. And we all know that the general has very precise views and has often reaffirmed his opinions in this regard. After 1989, Article 119 provides that amendments designed to diminish the president's powers require the consent of the president and approval by two-thirds of the sitting members of each chamber for passage. And even if they all agree, the amendments cannot be implemented until the chambers are completely reelected, that is to say, for 8 years as of 1990. Interestingly enough, the president is empowered to appoint 10 of the 36 members of the Senate, including himself. In other words, all Pinochet needs is 2 or 3 of the 26 elected senators to make the constitution unamendable. Under another provision of the constitution, he would also remain commander in chief of the army, even if there is a change of government in 1989."

"We are not in favor of amending the constitution. We believe that there must be a new one and we support the proposals for a Constitutional Assembly. This constitution was tailor-made for Pinochet. If the general were to remain

outside the political scene, the constitution would probably be open to amendment, which would therefore lay the groundwork for negotiations."

Rene Abeliuk, President of the Social Democratic Party

"We are never going to accept the position of General Canessa, which is the government's position. He contends that to have negotiations we must abide by the constitution and other regulations that are essential to the dictatorship. In other words, we have to submit to the dictatorship and then graciously debate whether the parties will require 20,000 or 150,000 signatures. As we said at the time, the constitution is illegitimate and antidemocratic; this has not changed. It is another thing entirely for us to accept the constitution for practical reasons to arrive at a solution, but provided that it be amended substantially and legitimized in an honest and democratic plebiscite."

[Question] What amendments would you demand?

[Answer] The constitution would practically need a complete overhaul, but the following points are most important: Article 8 and its ideological ban; the makeup, powers and prerogatives of Congress; states of emergency; the Constitutional Tribunal, the Judiciary and other bodies; the Central Bank and other provisions that consolidate the current economic model; the Armed Forces and the Security Council; temporary provisions; amending the constitution so that the country can continue its institutional evolution after restoring democracy.

[Question] What has changed in the country to make the constitution, which your party flatly rejected yesterday, an acceptable basis for negotiations today?

[Answer] Excessive purism was one of the major reasons for the collapse of our democracy. It should not turn into an obstacle to the restoration of democracy, as long as it is real democracy. Negotiations are not bad if they lead to democracy. They would be very bad if they meant yielding to the regime; no one except the people in power accepts this. The Armed Forces cannot be required to acknowledge that there was gross fraud in 1980, nor can the opposition be required to deny that there was. Consequently, the only possible solution is to amend the constitution, which fortunately requires a plebiscite, which must obviously be conducted with all sorts of guarantees.

If there are no negotiations sooner or later with the Armed Forces, the constitution will obviously expire along with the regime in whose service it was enacted. But such a solution seems quite far off, to say the least.

8743

CSO: 3348/516

CHILE

COUNTERFEIT RING UNCOVERED, POSSIBLE DRUG TRAFFICKING LINKS

Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 25 Mar 86 p C1

[Text] The OS-7 Department of Drug Control and Crime Prevention has broken up an organization that was counterfeiting foreign currency and has arrested three individuals, one of whom was carrying \$400,000.

The gang, which supposedly has connections throughout Latin America, police agents reported, printed a total of \$1.5 million at a site on the corner of Santa Rosa and Eyzaguirre and passed \$1.1 million of the bills last October in Argentina, where it is still circulating.

The rest of the forged bills were going to be passed here in Chile and were recovered when the OS-7 arrested 20-year old blue-collar worker Pedro Pablo Cabezas Carcamo last weekend near the "Omniun" office building on Apoquindo Avenue.

Also arrested for their involvement in the counterfeiting were Marcos Antonio Pollier Bustos, a 47-year old builder, and Florencio Celedonio Fuentealba Aguayo, a 52-year old white-collar worker, both of whom have criminal records, the former for passing bad checks and the latter for fraud.

All three were placed in the custody of the 12th Criminal Court of Santiago.

It was reported that international crime organizations have been assigning Chileans the job of forging dollars in rented printshops because of the high quality they have achieved.

The successful investigation was conducted jointly by the OS-7 and agents of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency stationed in our country.

Continuing Investigations

The public relations chief of the OS-7, Capt Eugenio Ortega, reported yesterday on the investigations conducted and displayed the confiscated bills.

The police investigation discovered that in October of last year the three arrested Chileans and two Argentines printed up around \$1.5 million in bills.

They had rented the printshop on the corner of Santa Rosa and Eyzaguirre for 150,000 pesos for this purpose.

The two Argentines then smuggled \$1.1 million into their country.

The official report indicates that "the investigation established that this organization is linked to the arrest of two Argentine citizens in Uruguay as they were trying to pass an undetermined amount of counterfeit dollars. Consequently, the investigation is being pursued so as to establish the identity of the arrested men and thus provide evidence for the prosecution's case in this country."

The police were said to have waited as long as possible before arresting the men and searching the printshop in the hope that they would try to pass the remaining \$400,000.

8743

CS0: 3348/516

CUBA

BRIEFS

INTUR ACCEPTING ADDITIONAL CURRENCIES--The Austrian shilling, the Finnish markka and the Portuguese escudo are now accepted as direct payment in all INTUR facilities without having to be converted into U.S. dollars or Cuban pesos. In Cuba, prices for tourists from countries with market economies are expressed in U.S. dollars in the main hotels, restaurants, nightclubs, tourist stores and other INTUR facilities. The value of the currency from those countries is based on the existing international market exchange rates. The other 16 types of currency being accepted as direct payment are the following: Venezuelan bolivar; Danish krone; Norwegian krone; Swedish krona; Canadian dollar; U.S. dollar; Dutch florin; Belgian franc; Swiss franc; French franc; British pound; West German deutsche mark; Spanish peseta; Mexican peso; Italian lira; and Japanese yen. Travelers checks issued by such important firms as Thomas Cook, American Express and Visa are accepted without restriction, as are Eurocard and Access cards and Visa and Mastercards not issued by U.S. or Puerto Rican banks. The National Bank of Cuba has placed in circulation a new means of payment, in the form of certificates of foreign exchange based on the U.S. dollar. This certificate is honored at all National Bank of Cuba branches and hotels. [Text] [Havana GRANMA WEEKLY REVIEW in English 23 Mar 86 p 4] /12851

CSO: 3200/23

ECUADOR

FEBRES CORDERO ON U.S.-LIBYAN CONFLICT

PA190133 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Engineer Leon Febres Cordero's government issued an official communique through the Foreign Ministry concerning the U.S.-Libyan conflict, deploring the loss of human lives. The government communique condemns once more international terrorism, which has already caused so many victims and represents a crime against mankind.

It also deplores the fact that diplomatic efforts were not enough to annihilate this scourge, and laments the use of force--which leads to the loss of precious lives and resources.

Referring to the OPEC's oil embargo, which Libya has demanded against the United States, the Ecuadoran Government points out that since this is an economic organization it cannot adopt political actions, therefore, it rejects the measure.

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CSO: 3348/536

ECUADOR

VICE PRESIDENT DISCUSSES COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC GROWTH

PA141905 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Text] As special guest of the Ecuadoran Women's Corporation [Corporation Femenina Ecuatoriana] Vice President Blasco Penaherrera Padilla delivered a lecture on Ecuador's planning. The event took place at the Isabel La Catolica Room of the Colon International Hotel.

Since the beginning of its activities, the Ecuadoran Women's Corporation has been an important forum where various topics of national interest have been analyzed. Within this context, Penaherrera elaborated on the subject of Ecuador's planning, particularly concerning the development of our national economy.

[Begin Penaherrera recording] Not too long ago, international financial organizations published a report on the behavior of the world's economy during 1985. In brief, it concluded that the world's economy dropped to minus 2 percent in 1985. This refers to the world's economy, which includes Japan, Honduras, and Ecuador. While the world's economy dropped to 2 percent, Ecuador's economy increased to 3.8 percent. Based on what? On an increase in its revenues from oil production? No, only to a certain extent. There was a slight increase as a result of the increase in production. Our economy grew, because of other factors. Investments and capital, which had decreased in the previous few years began to grow; the export of all the nonpetroleum products, which had dropped to minus five in 1982 increased to 13.2 in 1984, and to 12.9 in 1985. This spectacular growth can only be seen in countries with vigorous industrial development; it is only in those countries where nontraditional exports of nonpetroleum products experience this growth.

What does this mean? It means two things. First, that the country's economic situation continues to be favorable; that the country's economic situation is good; that there is no significant deterioration in the economic structure and much less in the social structure; that our country can respond to demanding and trying situations as this one. Second, that the policies and measures implemented in the handling of our economy and politics have been adequate. These measures can be summarized as a wise and correct use of foreign exchange reserves, sound handling of budget expenditures, and basically, the resoration of the facto I have said is most important, which is an atmosphere of confidence, stability and security. Under those conditions, Ecuador is a country capable of reacting, recovering and functioning.

I believe that, thus far, this has been the most interesting result from the painful experience we are going through. This exciting experience--because in addition to painful, it is also exciting--tell us what we can and should do. First of all, we must strengthen our spirit of social solidarity, which means a thorough integration of the government, social, and economic sectors, a full integration of the productive sectors, instead of the absurd and negative belligerence between capital and labor and the rural and urban areas, which should not exist. What we need is an atmosphere of harmony and conciliation, the integration of social forces, such as the women's organizations, the cultural institutions, and all those who have a specialized function, as well as a clearer picture of reality. Integration, which unfortunately seems impossible at this time, and solidarity among the political sectors are necessary.

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CSO: 3348/536

ECUADOR

OIL EXPERT REVIEWS CURRENT NATIONAL SITUATION

PA120248 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] Engineer Rene Bucaram, director of the CEPE [Ecuadorian State Petroleum Corporation]--Texaco Consortium, described the international oil market as extremely critical but, nevertheless, said that the Ecuadoran economy will overcome the crisis when the organization carries out its various projects. The oil expert also said that Ecuador will soon increase its oil reserves by approximately 210 million barrels, which will help balance the effects of the current crisis.

Bucaman said that 27 wells will begin operating by 1987, with an authorized production of 7,800 barrels per day. Likewise, in 1988, the consortium hopes to inaugurate the third project for secondary recovery at Huata field. Also, Engineer Bucaram said that current Ecuadoran oil production is more than 300,000 barrels per day.

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CSO: 3348/536

GRENADA

MBPM'S RADIX SCORES U.S. MILITARY EXERCISE IN REGION

FL211608 Bridgetown CANA in English 2035 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Excerpt] St Georges, 20 Apr (CANA)--Leader of Grenada's leftwing Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement (MBPM) Kendrick Radix has criticized United States-backed military exercises to be held here next week.

The former mobilisation minister suggested the U.S. call off the exercise and instead help the people of the Caribbean solve their social and economic problems.

We do not oppose economic and political cooperation (with the U.S.) but we roundly oppose any interference in the domestic affairs of regional countries, he said.

An estimated 750 troops and security personnel from the U.S., Jamaica, and five East Caribbean islands are due to take part in the exercise code-named "Ocean Venture 86" from 24 April to 10 May.

The exercise is designed to demonstrate the capability of the regional security system (RSS) and the United States to protect national interests by supporting neighbours in the Caribbean.

The former government minister said that in light of the recent air raids by the U.S. against Libya the Reagan administration should now invade South Africa to put an end to its apartheid policy rather than stage war games in the Caribbean.

He also stated that he feared the U.S. was using the exercise to lay the basis for future military action by Washington in the Caribbean similar to the invasion of Grenada in 1983.

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CSO: 3298/422

GRENADA

AIRPORT SECURITY NEEDS LINKED TO QADHDHAFI THREAT

St Georges THE GRENADIAN VOICE in English 12 Apr 86 p 7

[Unsigned column "In GB's Little Corner": "Improve Security at Point Salines Airport--Prevention Is Better Than Cure"]

[Excerpts] (YOU in YOUR Corner....and I in MINE)

That sanest of all sane world leaders, Colonel Muammar Gaddafi of Libya (incidentally Castro, Ortega, Arafat and Botha are listed among other sane leaders) just under a month ago, issued a declaration. In it, he said he has declared war on all Americans, on all American installations, all buildings, aircraft, ships etc. because the U.S. had violated Libya's territorial boundary during naval exercises in the Gulf of Sirte.

A bomb explosion shattered the windows of a building which housed the offices of an American airline in Norway.

So....what is the point?

The corner observed last week, that airport authorities in Antigua disclosed that security is being beefed up at that country's V. C. Bird International Airport in view of the escalation of acts of terrorism throughout all parts of the world. The Airport authorities in Antigua point out fairly that no incidents have occurred into or out of that country's airport but they thought that "prevention is better than cure."

That is Antigua.

But what of Grenada? What about the Point Salines International Airport? A lot of American tourists coming to the island, and indeed departing, do so by aircraft. There are several countries, and the Corner would rate one of them as Libya, that are still seething with anger at the way and under whose auspices Point Salines International Airport was opened.

Following Gaddafi's warning, isn't it time that the airport here begins to become a modern one from the point of view of security? As it stands now, maybe

there is some form of security at Point Salines, but in truth, the Corner has never yet observed any.

Gaddafi's declaration of war is at Americans in any part of the world. And Grenada's close links with the U.S. and the warm fraternisation among our peoples cannot possibly have gone unnoticed by Muammar.

The Corner is only saying that Muammar would not be thinking of Grenada as too far for him to unleash his terrorism.

Certain powers-that-be here would do well to note that following the hijacking last year of the TWA aircraft from Athens, which eventually ended up for days in Lebanon, the U.S. government advised Americans not to visit or travel to Rome because its airport security was too lax, or non.

Grenada isn't as large as Rome (not Italy).

The Corner is just saying that a word to the wise should be enough....and leaving you in yours....hoping you leave me in mine.

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GRENADA

CONCERN OVER POLICE BEHAVIOR, PRIVILEGES FOR 'BIG SHOTS'

SSU Abuses

St Georges THE GRENADIAN VOICE in English 12 Apr 86 pp 8-9

[Lloyd Noel column "On Law & Politics": "An Abuse of Authority"]

[Excerpts] Last week I dealt with the topic of an abuse of freedom, and tried to show the relationship between the citizen's freedom to enjoy his right--protected by law and guaranteed by the constitution--and his duties and responsibilities to wards other citizens who have similar rights and freedom, and the role of the state, or society, or the administration of justice in binding the whole system together.

Before the ink was dried on my draft, and days before publication of the article, I received a call from a very prominent and trustworthy member of the Saint David's community, who was lamenting over an incident at St David's which clearly brings out the very opposite of last week's topic.

A situation where the people of Thebaide were praising the police for acting quickly and decisively on the Wednesday before for apprehending the suspected thieves, had changed to one of disgust and ridicule, and dismay at the gross abuse of the S.S.U's authority and criminal acts--in shooting up people and property under the guise of enforcing the law.

There have been many stories of the SSU's heavy-handed actions in dealing with suspected persons who have broken the law. The sad facts are, that in every case where those officers are alleged to have abused their authority, the victims are always the poor, the rasta-type, and "little people" in our society; but when those same officers hold "big-shots" with dangerous drugs and in all sorts of "hanky-panky", a phone call from a minister of government is all that is needed to keep the matter quiet.

A classical case of--"one law and low level of treatment for the poor, and a different law and higher level of treatment for the rich." That classification is even more dangerous and contagious than individuals or groups abusing their rights and freedoms, because here the arm of the law and the administration of justice can adequately impose corrective balances; but when the very people who are paid and appointed to guard and protect you turn around and ill-treat

and brutalise you--then the boat is leaking, sinister winds for changing course start blowing, and true democracy is on a head-on collision course.

Revolutions

In every country world-wide where violence, and revolutions, and people's spontaneous uprisings have brought about the down fall of elected or seemingly powerful military governments, (including Grenada), the fore-runner in the state of affairs in those countries, have always been unconstitutional actions and abuse of authority--by those elected or selected to enforce the law and regulate authority.

In the same area around Thebaide last week, another man's shop was burnt to the ground, and the SSU "discovered" four A.Ks and 350 rounds of "live ammunition" in a cave and my information is that those guns were well greased and obviously in use, or in practice.

It is no co-incidence that in the St David's area, gun shot sounds are the order of the night--as I have reported in these columns before, and in the great majority of incidence involving SSU and guns and allegations of "police brutality", the victims are always ex-P.R.As. A very knowledgeable individual suggested to me last week, during a discussion on the issue, that it is a straight case of "ex-PRAs" now in different colour uniforms, getting their own back on "ex-PRAs" out of any uniform. He amplified the point by reminding me--as though I could ever forget--that the divisions that brought about the two factions which resulted in the Fort Rupert bloodbath, is not dead but only sleeping. Deep food for thought for one and all to ponder and inwardly digest.

Some over-zealous persons, who are as anxious as the rest of us for a prolonged period of peace and stability in our once peaceful island, are apt to blindly dismiss every complaint or criticism with the stock phrases--"give them a chance, they only in office 15 months, all the other regimes before them did the same things etc. etc. etc."

Let me remind all concerned of a few truisms:--You never attempt to bend the bow of a tree after it has made branches; no sensible or responsible parent waits til adolescence to start correcting and training a child; and the evil that men do live after them, the good is often interned with their bones as true in Caesar's time as it is today. Day has dawned a long time ago. Wake up!!

Police Responsibilities

St Georges THE GRENADIAN VOICE in English 12 Apr 86 p 4

[Editorial]

[Excerpts]

Elsewhere in this newspaper today, we report the indulgence displayed by the police

when prisoners in the dock in a Court in the land behaved in an unseemly manner - hurling abuse and vituperation at the police in particular and authority in general - "not a man moved." And there are many other examples which have come to our attention where the police have been singularly inactive or careless - the failure to deal with the interminable traffic jams created by bus drivers trying to get into the Market Square via Hillsborough Street is just one of these.

Put this in juxtaposition to the kind of behaviour reported by our columnist Lloyd Noel today and the arrest of the Editor of this paper as well as myriad other stories of citizens being harassed for minor infringements while more serious crimes are being ignored and it must be admitted that there is a certain lack of even-handedness in the administration of the law. The question therefore arises: What, if anything, these "best trained policemen in the Caribbean" - to paraphrase the Commissioner - are being taught about public relations?

One must also wonder whether the motto "to protect and to serve" is just so many words with no meaning and whether the exhortation "Support your Police Force" displayed on so many bumper stickers and posters is something they feel they must command without realising that it is something they have to win.

The commissioner has a big job on his hands which he cannot afford to shirk for we need a police force that can be respected and supported. Lectures alone, which are obviously needed, will not do it. Proven cases of improper behaviour must be dealt with firmly.

But perhaps even more important is for him to be aware that he has people on his force who are adherents of the regime which operated as a kind of police state. They may simply be continuing their high handed practice - but they may also be deliberately creating a bad image of the force as an act of destabilisation. The Commissioner needs to examine and deal with the problem or his credibility will be lost.

Cocaine Dealing

St Georges THE GRENADIAN VOICE in English 12 Apr 86 p 4

[Letter to the Editor]

[Text] The Editor,

Sometime ago I saw in your newspaper, a promise to print certain allegations

made against Heyliger, every week until Government issue a satisfactory statement on the issue. Well, you have since changed your mind. I have never failed to be baffled by the antics of our pitiful politicians. Ours have generally been stooges, dangling in foreign ideas, this one and then that one. The fact is that we have only been praising and instituting ideals drafted mainly by the powers in their national interest. Ideals that suit their own particular situation, while we have nothing we can call our own.

We had here, the colonialists; then Gairy, the mystic; Coard, the Commie ideologue, who was prepared to install his master's ideology on the people by "the unflinching use of force". Now we have what? An impasse? Indecision? A Grenada-America? Where are we going? Can't you see that it cannot work here so? If we look at the things

from a standpoint of justice, in America, nobody, not even the Head of State (the President) is above the law. Some years ago President Nixon violated the law, the matter was brought before the nation and the court. He was convicted, forced from office and only a pardon, granted by another President saved him from jail. Geraldine Ferarro tried for the office of Vice-President of the U.S.A. and her family affairs were publicised so widely and in depth that it was heart-breaking.

Here in Grenada, justice is not for the upper-class. In this respect, the Governor General, P.M. and prominent Government officials cannot be considered. But why can't Heyliger and others be investigated and made to stand the consequences? I have heard of junior police officers committing offences and they were being fired and brought to court. But nothing was said. A police official violated the law, but nothing was

said. A doctor raped a woman, the public did not even hear about it. A woman, a man related to, a new hotel owner and must recently a local prominent businessman were caught red-handed with large quantities of cocaine, and one phone call was able to deter the police from pursuing these matters.

Our police and our courts can deal only with the poor of this country. Every week those little guys are hunted and jailed for the relatively harmless marijuana, but the dangerous Lucifer -in -powder form (cocaine) has no penalties here. You hear this John Public? In this paradise, cocaine possession is no offence and big boys are above the law. I call on all poor people, please go to church and rend your heart and not your garment. I doubt that letters like this one would be printed, but I am taking the chance, thanks.

Jim James
ST. GEORGE'S

Threat to Law and Order

St Georges THE GRENADIAN VOICE in English 22 Mar 86 pp 8, 10

[Excerpts]

At the risk of possibly upsetting my critics, who feel that I should leave the law and the constitution to rest in peace, I feel morally bound to go back to that twin issue of law and order in our society to-day, which seem more and more like a case of "suspended law and disorder".

Well, we are now about reaping the fruits of inactivity and unconcern which results in disorder and a break down of the machinery of justice. One of our three magistrates is leaving the bench at month-end and another is on the verge of following suit. They are fed up with the primitive conditions in which they have to deliver justice, and the meagre remuneration they receive, whilst all Tom, Dick and Harry from here, there and never-weary, getting fat salaries and allowances, and daily refreshers in excess of a magistrate's monthly pay, for doing a

disservice to the state and the people of Grenada. And what is worse, is that people bent on committing crimes or breaking the law are now doing so almost with contempt for those in authority. In the past week there were three separate incidents of unlawful shooting of persons in St. George's, between the top of Cemetery Hill and River Road. In St. David's one man brought out a gun and was firing in the air whilst threatening to kill himself, and had everyone running for cover, and my reliable information is that gun shots in that area are part of the nightly sounds.

In St. George's Market Square on Tuesday of last week there were two separate incidents of more than six policemen in one case, and four in another case, trying to arrest one man in each case, whilst he was resisting arrest.

We are seeing in our courts almost daily, or hearing

on the radio, of endless marijuana raids by the SSU, and the chaps and girls are no longer hiding in the mountain regions to cultivate the stuff, they are doing so in their backyards near public roads.

All these and those examples point to the obvious conclusion that people have very little regard for authority which they are seeing as mal-functioning, and law and order is gradually breaking down in our society. And whilst our "Roman system" is burning down, our mighty Caesars are hell bent on causing more chaos and confusion by fiddling with VAT, and MLVT and MVT to everyone's dismay, including some members of Parliament of the NNP.

If the leaders, who are the law-makers and law-enforcers, are breaking the law and breaching the Constitution with impunity, then what can they and society expect from the lesser mortals.

We can recruit hundreds more policemen and special reserves, send them to "lands end" for training and equip them with nuclear bombs if we wish; we can hire whoever from wherever for as long as ever, and pay them in gold coins or Japanese Yens or Lire, if we have any; but none of these would make any sense under inaction, indecision and inevitable disintegration.

For people to obey the law, to cooperate and behave in an orderly manner, to have respect and regard for authority and those who command authority--these people must also be imbued with confidence and trust in those elected or selected to lead and guide them.

The leaders are the trustees of the people, and as such they have a very deep and unenviable duty of care to maintain and portray. To neglect their duty, or abandon their trust by default, is tantamount to criminal negligence for which they are or will be answerable.

They have had more than enough time to at least show that they are aware and doing something to alleviate the problem;--to sit idly by and do nothing, is a contempt for the people of the utmost gravity. Lord help us!

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GRENADA

PAPER DISCUSSES ISSUE OF CONTROL OF 'DISCOVERY TV'

St Georges THE GRENADIAN VOICE in English 22 Mar 86 p 13

[Text]

GRENADIAN VOICE had discovered that Discovery T.V is, up to now, a total American operation controlled by Mr. David McCourt, with no local company being established, no Grenadian involved in the decision making regarding the development and direction of the station and no proper arrangements being made about the occupation; by the station, of the Morne Jaloux building which formerly housed the Cuban Embassy.

Both Mr. McCourt, in a recent interview with the VOICE and Prime Minister Herbert Blaize, in a press conference last week, said that Discovery Foundation is a non-profit organisation set up to establish television facilities in

developing countries (of which Grenada is the first) with equipment and funding solicited from corporations, funding agencies and individuals in the United States. This solicitation is being aided by a letter from President Ronald Reagan in which he said, "I commend the Discovery Foundation and my fellow Americans for assisting the Grenadian people in this vital endeavour."

McCourt told the VOICE that he had himself contributed a substantial amount of cash to the project and that rather than going the way of certain stations and spending more money on "reception" equipment to receive and trans-

mit programmes from other stations with no control over the content, Discovery had decided to put the most money in studio and transmission equipment and this have total control over the quality of programmes.

However, it has been discovered that the station has only a 10 watt transmitter located at Fort Frederick, which is unable to reach all households in the parish of St. George.

According to a fact sheet put out by the Foundation the "completed system will cost estimated \$1.5 million in equipment and services pro-

vided by a variety of public and private individuals and organisations" and the "system is designed to be financially self-sufficient."

In only a partial answer to a question asked by the VOICE concerning the control of the station, and the arrangements for the use of the premises occupied, Blaize told the press conference that when the station is complete it will be handed over to the Government of Grenada. Further questioning was presented when the conference ended abruptly with the Prime Minister telling a reporter to "go to hell".

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GRENADA

CHESTER HUMPHREY SEEN AS EXERTING INFLUENCE ON UNION

St Georges THE GRENADIAN VOICE in English 12 Apr 86 p 16

[Text]

CHESTER HUMPHREY appears to have had at least partial success in getting his way when the Annual General Meeting of the Technical & Allied Workers Union (TAWU) reconvened on Wednesday, after it had ended in an uproar on March 15.

It appears that only the intervention of legal adviser Derek Knight (founding President of the Union), who pointed out that the Union's constitution called for the President to hold office for three years, saved incumbent Wilfred Hayes from being replaced. Reports are that six out of the fourteen posts filled at the election - including two Trustees and three senior officers are Humphrey's sidekicks.

Humphrey did not attempt to take official part in

the meeting as he did on March 15 but he appeared to be manipulating certain members from downstairs of the Seamen & W front Union Headquarters on the Carriage while the elections were in progress. Some of these would not even make a statement without first running downstairs and consulting with Humphrey.

TAWU was one of the many unions infiltrated and taken over by revolutionary elements during the communist years and Chester Humphrey was President of the Union at the time of the intervention in 1983. He has been trying to regain control of the Union.

The results of the elections, with Wilfred Hayes remaining as President, are:- Matthew Stephen (1st Vice President), Gordon Raeburn (2nd

Vice President), Robertha Bernard (General Secretary), Desmond Gooding (Asst. Gen. Secty.), Herman Peters (Treasurer), Leslie Bain, Alister Francis, Kelvin Howell, Denise Malcolm, Glen Reid and Dunbar Gooding (Floor members of the Executive) and Trustees - Kenneth Edwards, Leyland Waldron and Michael Armstrong.

Possibly because of the experience of March 15, Mr Percival Louison, Labour Commissioner was present and conducted the elections. A motion of no confidence in the President failed when Mr. Knight explained the position. The meeting ended with members chanting "the table turning around", but it was

not quite clear whether this was in support of or against the efforts of Humphrey.

GRENADA

NUTMEG INDUSTRY TERMED 'HEALTHY' AS PRICES RISE

St Georges THE GRENADIAN VOICE in English 22 Mar 86 p 2

[Text]

The advance prices for nutmeg and mace have again risen.

From last Monday, the price of a pound of green nutmegs was 80 cents, rising from 70, while dried nutmegs are being bought at \$1.00 a two-cent increase. The grinders grade of nutmeg has risen by six cents to 46 cents. Number one mace, which is the best quality of its type now fetches \$3.52, an increase of a dollar, which is the same level of increase for number two mace, which now earns \$2.32 a pound.

Both mace and nutmegs have risen over a hundred percent within the last year. Just over a year ago, dried nutmegs were 30 cents a pound.

The latest deci-

sion of the Grenada Co-operative Nutmeg Association to increase prices were made "in view of the present healthy state of the industry" and the complete removal of the export duty on nutmegs and mace and other chief agricultural exports, according to chairman, Norris James.

The Chairman says the nutmeg industry is now in a 'healthy state' and farmers are getting more for their produce than ever before. He however warned them to be cautious since agricultural prices on the world market can fluctuate drastically in a short period.

All farmers the GRENADIAN VOICE spoke to, expressed their pleasure with the increase, though a number of

them say they hope the increased prices will not mean less "back pay" (bonuses) at year end. "I hope that is truly an increase in real terms, and not taking out of the back pay to put on the advances," One Munich nutmeg producer remarked.

Farmers have also spoken of the need to "police" their fields. In a discussion involving five nutmeg producers on a bus from Grenville this week, they were saying that theft of nutmegs has become widespread, since the previous increases. They felt that with this

latest increase, the larcenous act will also increase. Some farmers have reported that their nutmegs and mace were stolen mostly during the night in recent times. One farmer told the GRENADOAN VOICE; "A lot of fellas pretend they are going to hunt (for maniocou) and end up below your nutmeg tree in the night with bags collecting your nutmegs."

The Ministry of Agriculture said previously that it was working on legislation to enforce stiffer penalties for persons found guilty of praedial larceny.

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CSO: 3298/422

GRENADA

BLAIZE NOTES THREAT TO BANANA EXPORTS TO BRITAIN

Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 21 Apr 86 p 15

[Text]

ST GEORGE'S, Sunday (CANA) — Prime Minister Herbert Blaize has told Grenadians that the island could be stopped from shipping bananas to Britain.

This may happen because of increases in the amount of poor quality fruit being detected, he said in a radio broadcast.

Blaize made the state-

ment against the backdrop of a recent meeting which he had with officials of the British buying company Geest Industries, the Grenada Banana Co-operative Society (GBCS), Windward Islands' Banana Association (WINBAN), and Agriculture minister George Brizan to discuss the issue.

"there is definite evidence that Grenada's quality has gone far below all the other Windward Islands and there is a danger that Grenada's bananas may not be sold on the English market unless we try to improve our quality," he said in the broadcast.

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GRENADA

BRIEFS

RADIO MANAGER--Mr Rawle Howard, a former staffer at Radio Grenada, was expected to arrive in Grenada on Friday April 3, and, according to information reaching the GRENADIAN VOICE, Howard will assume the position of Manager of Radio on Grenada. Meanwhile, the VOICE is also reliably informed that Mr Jerry Romain, whose last substantive post was that of Manager of Radio Grenada, has been confirmed in the post of Chief Information Officer. [Text] [St Georges THE GRENADIAN VOICE in English 5 Apr 86 p 3] /9274

CSO: 3298/422

GUATEMALA

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADOR TO CHILE--Julio Gandara has been appointed Guatemalan ambassador to Chile. He is to leave for that country soon. [Summary] [Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 22 Mar 86 PA] /6662

AID AGREEMENT WITH FRG--Vice President Roberto Carpio Nicolle has said that a letter of intent for \$24 million was signed with the FRG Government. He said that part of these funds will be a donation. He said that the \$24 million will be used in projects for the country and that he expects that it will be delivered in April. [Summary] [Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 22 Mar 86 PA] /6662

CS0: 3248/419

GUYANA

PRIME MINISTER GREEN ADDRESSES ENERGY SITUATION

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 7 Mar 86 pp 1, 4-5

[Text]

PRIME Minister Hamilton Green yesterday announced three measures to ease the inconvenience of citizens resulting from the long gasoline lines, as he brought the National Assembly up-to-date on the energy situation.

"The following decisions," he told the National Assembly, "will be implemented with immediate effect:"

- there will no longer be any restriction on opening hours of gas stations and dealers will be given the flexibility to determine their opening hours taking into consideration the GEC's Energy Management Programme and the availability of fuel;

- oil companies will co-operate among themselves and with the gas station dealers to ensure "as far as is humanly possible" an even distribution of the available supplies of fuel to gas stations; and

- the sale of gasoline in containers was being discontinued until further notice.

The Prime Minister's statement to the Assembly on the current problems in acquiring fuel supplies, followed discussions in recent days with

representatives of oil companies, petrol dealers, the Trades Union Congress and other organisations.

"Government, through the Guyana National Energy Authority, will continue to monitor the situation closely and stand ready to further discuss this question with interested and patriotic citizens," the Prime Minister said.

The "most noticeable phenomenon is the uneven supply of fuel," Cde. Green noted, "is the build up of lines of motorists at petrol stations." "This situation," he acknowledged, "has had an impact on the transportation of workers, schoolchildren and other members of the public."

The "fundamental problem," he told the Assembly, is the unavailability of adequate foreign exchange to finance the importation of the usual quantity of fuel.

From the inception of the oil crisis in 1973, the fuel bill has increased from \$60 m to \$436 m in 1985, or from nine per cent of the country's foreign earnings to 50 per cent.

And although oil prices have subsequently taken a downward trend, there has as yet been "no significant consequential reductions in our fuel bills," the Prime Minister said.

"We continue here in Guyana to attempt to reduce our dependence on the use of oil" while

promoting the use of bagasse in power generation and pursuing the production of charcoal and other alternatives. "However, the fact is we still depend on oil to keep us going," the Prime Minister emphasised.

Guyana's trading arrangement with Trinidad and Tobago was changed last September when it was agreed this country would export to the twin-island republic the equivalent value of imports from that country.

"Prior to the change in the arrangement — any difference was settled in TT dollars. However, in keeping with the new approach, Guyana is now required to cover any shortfall in its exports, mainly rice, in hard currency.

In October and November last year, for example, Guyana was unable to sell Trinidad and Tobago an adequate value of our products to cover fuel imports and ran up an average US \$2 m per month deficit.

In addition, since last December, no shipments of rice have been made, by Guyana to Trinidad and Tobago because of the

accumulation of sizeable stocks in that country.

Discussions are however, continuing with Trinidad and Tobago for the expansion of trade and the Prime Minister reported to the Assembly, that rice shipments are "expected to recommence very shortly.

Realistic decisions, he noted, had to be taken in dealing with the developing energy situation. Ways of ensuring the efficient use of fuel and of reinforcing energy conservation must be areas of emphasis, he added.

The GEC has already put in place a programme to conserve on its use of fuel, he pointed out.

Following his announcement of the immediate measures to ease the congestion and the resultant inconvenience as a result of the queues at the gas stations, Cde. Green said, 'the Government was "very heartened and encouraged by the support and co-operation" by the oil companies, gas stations dealers, and others, including the TUC.

"Together let us face our difficulties with strength and resolve", he urged. (GNA)

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CSO: 3298/418

GUYANA

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OPENS DEBATE ON PROPOSED 1986 BUDGET

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 7 Mar 86 pp 1, 4-5

[Article by Colin King]

[Text]

A NUMBER of lively presentations were made yesterday afternoon as the National Assembly debated the 1986 Budget, presented last Friday, under the theme "Conservation for growth and development."

The \$1.9 billion Budget, and Government's related economic policy, are aimed at improving the national economic performance, Vice President, National Mobilisation, Cde Ranji Chandisingh said, in the first presentation on the Government side at yesterday's sitting.

The Budget presentation by Finance Minister Carl Greenidge, he said, represented a "very serious and succinct analysis" of problems lying in the way of progress and of the solutions to these problems.

PPP front-bancher, Clinton Collymore, the first speaker in yesterday's debate, was sharply critical of the Budget, and declared that the PPP would not support the motion for approval.

There were "the same old cliches", he said, and criticised the level of Government's proposed expenditure on debt servicing, and security. He said the provisions for the rice sector, housing, and co-operatives development were too small.

Collymore urged that the country purchase fuel from

sources other than Trinidad and Tobago.

"Why are we always making sacrifices for Caricom?" the PPP Parliamentarian asked. Guyana, he contended, is usually treated "worse than second class cousins". Venezuela and the Soviet Union, he added, could be alternative sources of fuel supplies.

"If you have to pay cash go and buy where you want," the PPP member suggested.

He however, echoed some aspects of the Budget proposals when he suggested that the tourist industry be developed to earn foreign exchange, that more resources be put into agricultural and industrial development, and that "the private sector has a role to play in any socialist state."

Cde Chandisingh, and the two other PNC speakers before the 16:00 hrs adjournment for tea, Mohamed Ally and James Bovell-Drakes, however drew attention to measures already taken by Government to promote development in various sectors of the economy and more initiatives contained in the 1986 Budget proposals.

In his presentation, Cde Chandisingh dealt with the thrust of the budget as regards promoting economic dynamism, the identification of use of resources for

people's benefit, the need for conservation which he stressed must be taken seriously now, and even in better times, and the important role of the private sector.

The successes of the past 20 years must not be forgotten, he stressed.

The "Jeremiahs and ill-wishers" inside and outside the country will, as usual, concentrate on the irritants. If they had been correct in their past predictions of

doom, he said, Guyana would have been a "wasteland".

Instead, the nation has survived with the people working, worshipping and otherwise existing in harmony and in a relaxed atmosphere. They have become imbued with a spirit and confidence to meet challenges and overcome them, he stated.

The thrust of the Budget towards infusing dynamism into the economy, Cde Chandisingh told the Assembly, depends considerably on the people's involvement. A primary concern is encouragement of initiative among people.

He dealt at length with the development of regionalism, particularly the strengthening of the system seen in the past year through the reconfiguration of a number of ministries to increase the administrative and managerial capacity in the regions.

The system of local democracy, Cde Chandisingh stressed, is an integral part of the development strategy. Together with renewed efforts in the area of workers' education, he added, it can be expected that people's involvement will be deepened in the period ahead. (GNA)

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CSO: 3298/418

GUYANA

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TOLD REGIONAL SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 7 Mar 86 pp 1, 5

[Text]

SEVERAL measures are being taken this year to further strengthen the Regional system, Vice-President National Mobilisation, Cde. Ranji Chandisingh, told the National Assembly yesterday.

Speaking during a debate on the 1986 Budget proposals, he outlined some of the measures being taken to improve the quality of Regional Administration, and to improve the delivery of services to the people in the regions.

Cde. Chandisingh's

statements on this aspect of the Government's Budget proposals and policy were complemented in other presentations by PNC members, among them Mohamed Ally, who focused on self-reliance and agricultural development, and James Bovell-Drakes, speaking on local research efforts.

The Vice-President noted that since 1980, the Regional Democratic Councils (RDCs) have been established and strengthened and over the period, valuable experiences

and insights have been gained.

This year, he said will see the completion of the regionalisation of the Ministries of Health, Education and Social Development, Information and Manpower. In addition, Planning Units will be established in all the regions.

Recruitment of staff for the Planning Units has already been completed and training and placement are expected to be completed later this year.

Positions have been created in the regions for 14 Deputy Regional Executive Officers, and for a number of engineers, personnel officers and other staff, to ensure there are better management and finance cadres in the regions. These

placements are expected to improve administration and increase the speed and competence with which services are delivered to the people.

Measures are also to be implemented for greater public accountability which must be a "cornerstone" of the regional system, Cde. Chandisingh said.

"Officials must be imbued with the idea of planning with people," he said, and Local Government authorities should be sensitised well in advance about programmes proposed for their areas by official agencies.

These Local Government authorities, the official agencies and individual officers will be required to report to the regional administration on the implementation of programmes, perceived waste and programmes of rectification, and on general irritants in the regions. (GNA)

/9274

CSO: 3298/418

GUYANA

BRIEFS

COMMITMENT TO CARICOM--A spokesman for the Guyana Government yesterday rejected a recommendation by People's Progressive Party (PPP) front-bencher Clinton Collymore that Guyana should purchase fuel from sources other than Trinidad and Tobago. Collymore's recommendation was made in the National Assembly Thursday during debate of the 1986 Budget proposals. "Why are we always making sacrifices for Caricom?" the PPP Parliamentarian asked. He suggested the Soviet Union and Venezuela as alternative fuel suppliers. In an invited comment yesterday, a spokesman for the Government said Guyana was committed to Caricom and to stimulating trade within the region. "We honour Caricom with more than lip service," the spokesman added. [Text] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 8 Mar 86 p 1] /9274

RICE FOR ST LUCIA--Georgetown, Guyana--The Guyana Rice Export Board is preparing to export another 150 tonnes of rice to St Lucia, officials reported. "The shipment will leave later this week," one board official said. The first consignment of rice was supplied in February. The official said there were no outstanding orders for rice to the sister Caribbean Community (Caricom) state. Other shipments of rice to St Lucia are expected to be made later this year, the officials said. Meanwhile, harvesting of Guyana's first rice crop for 1986 is under way. [Text] [Bridgetown DAILY NATION in English 3 Apr 86 p 17] /9274

CSO: 3298/418

HAITI

DECREES NATIONALIZING DUVALIER PROPERTY PUBLISHED

Port-au-Prince LE PETIT SAMEDI SOIR in French 22-28 Feb 86 p 17

[Decrees of the National Government Council, composed of Haitian Armed Forces Lt Gen Henri Namphy, president, Armed Forces Colonels Williams Ragala and Max Valles, members, Alix Cineas and Gerard Gourgue, members, and Armed Forces colonel and advisor Prosper Avril, and signed by the president, Lt Gen Henri Namphy, issued at the National Palace in Port-au-Prince on 18 February 1986, the 183d year of Haitian independence]

[Text] In view of the National Government Council's 7 February 1986 proclamation,

In view of the 26 August 1870 law governing government officials' responsibility,

Whereas public outcry has accused ex-President Jean-Claude Duvalier of having misappropriated public funds in such a way as to further impoverish the country, Whereas it is of importance for us to see to it that ex-President Jean-Claude Duvalier cannot himself or through agents create the illusion, through fictitious sales and intermediaries, that the accounting the nation is demanding has been effected,

Whereas this accounting is an expression of the will of the people,

Whereas it is urgent for us to adopt those measures necessary to the safeguarding of the nation's rights,

Based on the report submitted by the ministers of justice and finance and of interior and national defense and following deliberation of the matter in the Council of Ministers, [the National Government Council]

Decrees

Article 1: As of this decree, the personal and real properties of ex-President Jean-Claude Duvalier are confiscated and will be administered by the director of the Internal Revenue Service until the courts decide on them in accordance with the law of 18 April 1940.

This provision will be extended to those real properties that were involved in sales, business transactions and in any other contracts during the 6 months preceding 7 February 1986.

Article 2: This confiscation will include all property, interests, rights and shares, even if ex-President Jean-Claude Duvalier possessed them only in part, through association, through intermediaries or in any other way.

Article 3: Any third party, Haitian or foreign, who has not declared that he served as a dummy [in such transactions] will be regarded as an accomplice of ex-President Jean-Claude Duvalier, prosecuted and punished as such and his property will be forfeited to the rights of the state.

Article 4: Any person whosoever is prohibited from receiving or paying for securities on behalf of Jean-Claude Duvalier or on behalf of his assigns.

Article 5: Any securities or stocks and shares of any nature whatsoever that may be credited to the account of ex-President Jean-Claude Duvalier will be lawfully attached in the hands of their holders.

Article 6: This decree will be promptly published and executed by the ministers of justice, finance and economic affairs, interior and national defense, each as it applies to him.

[The National Government Council] Decrees

Article 1: The personal and real properties of ex-President Jean-Claude Duvalier are and will remain nationalized.

As of the promulgation of this decree, these properties will become the inalienable and unattachable property of the Haitian Government.

Article 2: The Internal Revenue Service is hereby authorized to conduct an inventory of said properties and to take possession of them in the name of the Haitian Government.

Article 3: Holders of defeasances, beneficiaries of fictitious sales operations and mortgages or those who in any capacity administer said properties are responsible for declaring them to the Internal Revenue Service within a period of time not exceeding 2 weeks from the promulgation of this decree under penalty of being considered to be coperpetrators or accomplices in these said misappropriations and illegal acquisitions and of being punished under the provisions of Articles 1, 2 and 3 of this decree.

Article 4: No provision may controvert the rights of the state to the property in question. All transactions and operations involving the property of ex-President Jean-Claude Duvalier are null and void.

Article 5: This decree rescinds all laws or provisions of laws and all decrees or provisions of decrees that are contrary to it and it will be promptly executed by the ministers of justice, finance and economic affairs, interior and national defense, each as it applies to him.

11,466

CSO: 3219/2

HAITI

SYSTEM FOR CLOSER TIES WITH POPULACE PROPOSED TO CNG

Port-au-Prince LE PETIT SAMEDI SOIR in French 22-28 Feb 86 p 17

[Article by Raoul Jacques: "Memorandum Addressed to All Members of the CNG"]

[Text] Object: The creation of committees throughout the country to receive complaints and make suggestions.

Goal: To lay the foundations for a new, just and humane democratic society with the greatest possible participation of people.

To this end, the measures to be adopted by the National Government Council are:

1. To maintain the closest contact with the public in order to emphasize the democratic nature of this provisional government which intends to:

- a) Protect the higher interests of the fatherland.
- b) Ensure civil liberties at all levels.
- c) Ensure the effective operation of institution in eliminating impediments.

With this last remark we have in mind our schools, our churches, our hospitals and all our private and public enterprises.

2) To realize this close contact with the public in both the provinces and Port-au-Prince, the National Government Council will form a committee responsible for receiving complaints and listening to suggestions from all sectors. Subcommittees establishing contact with the Central Committee will be set up in all regions of the country.

Regional offices will be set up in the following towns: Cap-Haitien, Port-de-Paix, Mole St-Nicolas, Gonaives, St-Marc, Port-au-Prince, Leogane, Grand-Goave, Petit-Goave, Miragoane, Jeremie, Cayes, Jacmel, Belle-Anse, Mirebalais, Lescahobas, Hinche, Dessalines, Belladere and Ouanaminthe.

These measures must be adopted in order to:

- a) Create a state of alert and vigilance among honest, peaceful citizens who wish to see the country progress in an orderly and peaceful way.
- b) Give all citizens the opportunity to participate in the affairs of their country.

c) Fill the gap left by the militia (VSN), which tainted our country during the most sinister and degrading period in our history, by replacing it with all our citizens, so that no one will feel that he has been kept out of the affairs of the nation.

While it does have a negative effect, we cannot ignore the impact of "macoutism" and this is why we must make a determined effort to establish a social organization the effect of which must be positive, one that encompasses the entire population in a movement of mutual assistance, harmony and love, always guided by intelligence and always in search of excellence.

d) Have a solid, well-supported foundation for a new and democratic system, one that relies on the intelligence of the Haitian people and national awareness.

e) Combat ignorance.

11,466

CSO: 3219/2

HONDURAS

POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS OF PUN ANALYZED

Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 11 Feb 86 p 6

[Text] In the National Congress, although this legislative body is apparently headed by a liberal, the mathematics of voting indicate that it is not the liberals who control the legislative branch of the government. The nationalist bloc is the most compact and at any given moment the alliance, the product of the National Unity Pact ("PUN"), appears to be crumbling, and the supporters of Azcona have been left whistling in the wind.

What may be decisive in Congress is not who is the president of the legislative body but what the breakdown of the votes cast will be. The nationalists only need 5 more votes to obtain a majority. Under the circumstances, was it worthwhile to have turned over the Supreme Court of Justice, 50 percent of the district courts throughout the country, and the office representing the Supreme Court on the National Elections Tribunal, in exchange for electing the president of Congress?

In other countries the judges who review the electoral process are independent, as in Costa Rica, for example. In Honduras these judges are nominated by the political parties and, in fact, follow the instructions which the leaders of those parties give them.

Therefore, even with all of that theory, which sounds very well, the country has gone through major changes in which nationalists coexist with liberals, etc. From the strictly political point of view it is no less dangerous for the liberals to have turned over, in the course of negotiations, almost all political power to their traditional adversaries. Finally, the nationalists will act as such and remain faithful to the dictates of their party.

But the matter goes further than that. The fact is that not only will matters concerning the electoral process remain in large part subject to the decisions of the National Party, but the government, in its efforts in Congress and even in the executive branch, depends on the good will of the nationalists.

Sooner or later, seen merely from its political aspect, it is not going to be in the interest of the nationalists for this government to be a good one. This is because if those who are now governing succeed in administering public affairs well, this would assure them of another term of office in the presidency.

For the moment the PUN is justified in the sense that it is a program of convenience favoring the country and encouraging united efforts for its development. However, a few months from now, how far will political interests coincide with national purposes? If the nationalists do not act as an opposition and allow their associates in the alliance to govern well, they will ensure them a further term in control of the administration.

Seen from the other aspect, the nationalists have carried off a large share of political and administrative power. However, the PUN ties them to the government. They are participating in it. They are responsible for handling very important duties. They cannot divorce themselves from this administration, because they are part of it. At least the present policy is known as the "Monarca" [king], which now holds the seals of the National Party and which the nationalist central committee completely shares in. The longer this goes on and the more they become involved in public affairs, the greater their commitment and the greater their share of responsibility in the "co-government."

How far are the members of the alliance going to continue with this uncomfortable arrangement? The Callejas group is part of the government, and they will have to share in the failures of this administration, if there are any. They contributed to strengthening the government and they are also responsible for what they have done.

In the general context, leaving the political aspect aside, the PUN was a convenient arrangement. It fits the program of the American Embassy perfectly: it provides for the theoretical unity of political forces which make up a majority at the moment, resulting in a strong government. The division of senior government positions also involves sharing responsibility. With everyone in the same boat, there will be a greater consensus on foreign policy issues--or at least not so much opposition. At the same time, the government will become more controllable.

As they say, this is what strengthens democracy, and if someone breaks down on the way, that is not important. Let people and political figures break down, but let the procession continue. Let the system move forward. If crises occur, then these obstacles will be straightened out on the way. The most important thing is to maintain an acceptable external image. This is important in order to obtain assistance from abroad.

Within the political parties the cracks are deeper among the liberals. The present leaders of the Liberal Party preferred an alliance with their political adversaries to an understanding among the various currents within the party itself. There is no possibility of resolving the internal dispute in the Liberal Party.

The attitudes displayed show that those who are on top of the Liberal Party are trying to destroy those at the bottom levels of the party, using all of the machinery which holding power offers them. To do this, they can count on the cooperation of their allies in the PUN. As the supporters of Callejas see it, they are going to play the political game with the pawns that they have. For example, they want the liberal presidential candidate to be the weakest figure available. Let him be a man whom they can beat easily.

As a result, they will not reject any means of favoring a liberal candidate whom they consider weak and, therefore, possible to defeat.

On the side of the liberals, sooner or later they are going to realize that the strength of Callejas could mean that they have given him on a silver platter a victory for the National Party in the next presidential election.

This would be unpardonable. This is not Colombia, and the liberals are not going to understand how it could happen that it would be agreed that a nationalist should be the next president. This is as true as the fact that neither do many of them agree that half of the government has been given them under the PUN. Many of them are saying: "We won in order to lose."

But in the National Party things are not very clear, either. The liberals now in power know that they cannot let Callejas get much stronger. Nor are they going to let him move forward alone. Therefore, perhaps beginning now, barely 2 weeks after the government has begun to function, the candidacies of several close associates of Azcona are already emerging into the political light. "The early bird catches the worm."

However, that is not all. Beginning now, it is beginning to be seen that Callejas is not going to run alone within his party. The present rector of the university is a man who has achieved everything he has sought for himself in his life. He has a very good image, and no one within the National Party can argue about his strong points.

Over the long term, as the Callejas faction continues to harvest the political storms resulting from the PUN and various failures are attributed to it for having taken part in the government, the rector can win the race.

This is the rub when many people look at the government carefully. This is the kind of ammunition that can be used against government figures, and 4 years are a long time. "Better a bird in the hand than 100 flying in the air," say those who saw the possibility of holding office, enjoying privileges, and having other benefits by supporting the PUN.

The pressure on the Callejas faction to distribute a part of the pie to its supporters is also enormous. Why should only some people get jobs, while others don't? These are questions which they are going to have to answer.

They would like to choke Oswaldo Ramos Soto for being naive. They tell him now that any candidacy is premature and that they are not going to allow the establishment of different political currents within the party. But that is being said in the hope that Ramos Soto will turn out to be insignificant, allowing Callejas to move forward alone. Callejas could go from town to town as the president of his party, saying that he is not appearing as a candidate but as the president of the Central Committee, urging party unity. Yes, but unity on his own terms. The rector won't swallow that kind of bait. He knows that he is beginning at a disadvantage but that at the end of the campaign continuing and planned effort can bring him the results he seeks.

For the moment, what is particularly premature is knowing what will be the real consequences of the National Unity Pact (PUN). Some candidates will be

left behind, while others will go all the way. Some will sink out of sight, while others will float easily. Under the worst of cases, let us pray to the Virgin of Suyapa, who has again taken first place among all of the shrines of the Virgin, that what floats will be the country.

5170

CS0: 3248/367

HONDURAS

SMALL PARTY MEMBERSHIP IN JEOPARDY FROM TNE RESTRUCTURING

Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 27 Feb 86 p 8

[Text] For the first time, since the National Elections Tribunal (TNE) was established, the traditional political parties (the liberals and the nationalists) have presented a formal proposal to undertake the immediate restructuring of that body. This implies that in a short time there will be large-scale dismissals of now those working for the TNE.

The proposal is reportedly aimed at directly harming the interests of the Christian Democracy party and the Party of Innovation and Unity (PINU), since officials of those political parties who work for the TNE have stated that at the moment it appears that two officials of the former party and 11 of the latter party will be dismissed.

Yolanda de Vargas, the representative of the PINU in the TNE, confirmed that, in effect, the representatives of the traditional parties presented a proposal to restructure the personnel of the TNE, which will be analyzed this week.

She said: "We have not been told that this action is based on the electoral support recorded in the recent elections. However, we clearly understand that what they want is a mathematical division of the various positions. This is a new development here, and we are concerned, because logically the small political parties will be the most affected."

Vargas said that "we don't expect that there will be a violent clash on this matter. We are hoping to resolve this problem by means of the harmony and understanding which has prevailed among the members of the TNE."

She announced that both the PINU, as well as the Christian Democracy party, will present a counter proposal to prevent this action from being too drastic for them, but she was not sure that it would be successful.

5170
CSO: 3248/367

HONDURAS

BRIEFS

TOME REPRESENTS SUPREME COURT--Cesar Tome, the new representative of the Supreme Court before the National Elections Tribunal (TNE), has admitted that he is a follower of Rafael Leonardo Callejas, but he has stated that he is undertaking his position "as a faithful supporter of a balance, as one who harmonizes the different political interests" which are involved in the electoral tribunal. Tome Rapalo assumed his new duties on 3 March, replacing Rafael Palacios Tosta, a liberal. The Callejas supporter, a representative of the judicial branch of the government which is now controlled by the nationalists, stated that "I will absolutely refuse to accept any instructions" from the justices of the court. Including this new representative of the Supreme Court gives the National Party control of the TNE. Notwithstanding this fact, Tome Rapalo said that this nationalist majority in the TNE will not be used in favor of Rafael Leonardo Callejas, who is virtually a candidate for the presidency. Tome Rapalo declared that the Supreme Court of Justice appointed him its representative on the TNE so that he "would serve as a moderator." The newly-appointed official, asked about the possibility of suspending the 1987 municipal elections, said that "this depends on the economic resources of the government to hold them." [Text] [San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 5 Mar 86 p 5] 5170

CSO: 3248/367

MEXICO

COINVESTMENT AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH BANK OF MONTREAL

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 2 Apr 86 p 5-A

[Text] National Finance Bank, Inc [NAFINSA] and the Bank of Montreal signed an agreement yesterday on cooperation in the area of promotion and coinvestment, the purpose of which is to promote industrial projects in Mexico which are a priority for the country, and which will make it possible to have technology, capital, and access to international markets.

The document was signed in the offices of the Bank of Montreal's agency. Rodolfo Salcedo signed the document on behalf of the latter institution, and Pablo Gomez Dominguez, director of industrial support services, did so on behalf of National Finance Bank, Inc. The honorary witness was Jean Prevost, commercial counselor of the Canadian Embassy in Mexico.

NAFINSA noted that this agreement is intended to coordinate activities related to the identification, promotion, and implementation of industrial projects in Mexico. They will have to take into consideration the proper utilization of the country's natural resources, and foster an actual transfer of technology.

It remarked that the Bank of Montreal had been selected because of its international prestige and the financial relations that both banking institutions have maintained for a long time. The Canadian bank also has an extensive system of mechanisms to back coinvestment.

It added that this includes coinvestment funds and agreements for industrial promotion with financial institutions in Japan, France, Spain, Italy, Great Britain, the Federal Republic of Germany, Switzerland, Norway, Israel, Belgium, Sweden, Denmark, and Finland.

2909

CSO: 3248/348

MEXICO

COMMERCIAL SECTOR FIGURE SEES NEED FOR DEBT MORATORIUM

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 28 Mar 86 pp 1-A, 15-A

[Text] Yesterday, Jose Gonzalez Bailo, president of the National Chamber of Commerce (CANACO), claimed: "The Mexican economy has now started bottoming out, and a moratorium is necessary, as part of a new formula, interpreted not as a unilateral suspension, but rather a provisional suspension of the interest and the debt itself."

He asserted: "Mexico has not lost financial credibility abroad, although the opportunities for credit have been greatly reduced. It isn't that credit has been denied; what has happened is that it was negotiated at a figure larger than that actually necessary, and it was procured, but not to the extent that was desired."

Gonzalez Bailo said: "The country's economic strength is still being negotiated. Mexico unquestionably has to handle the payment of its debt service with a new formula, but the credibility in the international financial world, as in the domestic one, remains strong."

He remarked: "I believe that we are treading bottom, and that we must, of course, use non-oil exports, by way of foreign trade, in order to extricate ourselves from the hole in which we are submerged; and an impetus must be given to the influx of foreign tourists who will generate foreign currency, but seriously now, with official action."

He also commented at the airport: "We have to take a position. There are problems that must be corrected with changes in the country's entire economy, but I think that there will also be imagination among business owners and the government, for solving them."

"Price control is never a desirable situation, except in the case of bread and tortillas. And I believe that the economy as a whole should be decontrolled, and it should be handled in very general terms, based on free supply and demand."

He declared that Mexico's entry into GATT [General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade] "is a sound and highly feasible occurrence," while at the same time noting that the problem of the reduction in oil prices would not affect prices directly, per se, and inevitably. Oil is affecting the total economy of the country, but Mexico does not represent oil alone; Mexico represents many other things, many others, really."

MEXICO

CLOUTHIER CONSIDERING SINALOA PAN CANDIDACY, RISKS TO FAMILY

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 16 Mar 86 pp 4-A, 28-A

[Text] "I haven't made a decision yet...I want my family's consensus, and I don't want to expose them to the risks entailed in agreeing to be the PAN [National Action Party] candidate for the governorship of Sinaloa...It is the intrusive one, because it is dissident, seriously. I want to gauge the risks to the family first."

Manuel J. Clouthier, argumentative and aggressive, asserts: "It is incidental that I am a businessman. First of all, I am a citizen...It is more important to be a citizen and acting in affairs for the common good than to be a businessman. I would like to do something for my state."

Nevertheless, the former head of the Employers Confederation of the Mexican Republic (COPARMEX) and of the Business Coordinating Council (CCE) is realistic, and remarks: "First, I must seek my family's support, and then assess the internal democracy in my party, PAN. Fortunately, we do have some good brave men for candidates."

"Who are they?" he is asked.

He observes: "There is Deputy Humberto Rice, who won for Mazatlan; and also Emilio Goicoechea Luna, former head of the Confederation of National Chambers of Commerce (CONCANACO); as well as Jorge del Rincon, who won the mayor's office in Culiacan."

He confides to the reporter: "There are some good people, but it will be the party's assembly that will decide....First, I must have the family's consensus. My children tell their friends: 'My father is in a campaign, but he is a part of the family,' and I want to keep it this way."

Clouthier has not given up his aggressive spirit. His confrontations with former Presidents Luis Echeverria and Jose Lopez Portillo made him respectable for the strength of his convictions. The invasions of his land and his business firm did not undermine his aggressiveness and his telling the truth, either; the expressions of support from businessmen all over the country have reinforced his image as a leader.

He admits: "I joined PAN in November 1984...Why PAN?...Because it is a party which, as part of its political ideology, proclaims respect for the dignity of the human being, and action for the common good. It recognizes private property, and strives for democracy. This is what I believe in."

The businessman seldom looks around him, and does not pay much attention to the waiters who are arranging everything necessary to make the main room of a well-known hotel completely ready for the meal to be served to nearly 1,000 businessmen from all over the country attending COPARMEX's annual meeting.

A Politician Since School

Smiling, he recalls that he has never ceased to engage in politics. "Since school days, when they named me head of the Students Association of the Monterrey Technological Institute, I have been involved in it. But, you see, in the representative positions that I held until I reached the Business Coordinating Council, I never tried, in a compulsory way, to force my associates to act in partisan politics."

He adds: "I didn't act in partisan politics until November 1984, when I joined PAN, but by then dissociated from any union representation."

He was asked about his direct experience in politics, and commented seriously: "It has been good...There are very valuable people in PAN, and they act with unsullied patriotism."

"But the results indicate failure for businessmen's participation in politics," he is told, and he remarks:

"If things don't turn out well in a democratic system, the only thing that happens is that the minorities become majorities, despite the repression. I trust that, sooner or later, there will be respect for the vote...It is not PAN that they rob at the polls, but rather the people. It is not a candidate whom they hurt, but rather the voter...In view of this obvious situation, the logical thing to do is reject it."

With his briefcases filled with reports and written invitations, even to participate in political forums, Manuel J. Clouthier comments:

"I still don't understand why there is so much fear of democracy... The only way of helping a responsible people is with freedom and democracy. There will never be a responsible people if this course of action is not achieved."

"When will it happen?"

"Within a short time. It must be offered."

Then he is asked whether Sinaloa might be the state that would soon have a PAN governor, to which he replies:

Uneasiness and Violence

"Everyone acknowledges the conditions of uneasiness and institutionalized violence and rebelliousness that the state is experiencing, and they know that it is PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party] members who are governing them. I believe that it would be most logical to reject this situation and this complacent attitude."

He also explains that many drugs are produced in Sinaloa. The present government, with the excuse that it is a federal crime, takes no action, because it is not incumbent on it; but action for the common good demands that it be combated.

He declares: "Whatever government there is must face this serious problem that is corrupting the society. The drug problem must be eradicated, because human values have been upset. How can an idol possibly be made of Caro Quintero? In Sinaloa, everyone, even the young people, know who the drug traffickers are. They are observed on the street, very calmly corrupting the youth, and nothing is done."

He was asked whether PAN was acting in any way, and he commented: "Systematically, on each of the visits made by President Miguel de la Madrid, we hold demonstrations on the issue, requesting federal intervention to put an end to the problem. The most recent banner that was shown to the president of the republic read: 'In Sinaloa, one does not live, one survives.'"

Clouthier excuses himself and asked that the interview be ended, because he has various commitments; but he notes: "Don't think that I am hiding. I am too fat to be able to do that."

2909

CSO: 3248/348

MEXICO

BRIEFS

SUBSIDIES JUSTIFICATION CITED--Cuernavaca, Morelos, 1 April--Subsidies for basic consumer goods are justified only when they are clearcut and actually reach the end consumers with their benefits. Their handling is vitally important to consumers. The secretary of commerce and industrial development, Hector Hernandez Cervantes, made the foregoing statement to the state governor, Lauro Ortega, and representatives of the public and private sectors, during a working tour on which the following points were underscored: The Cuernavaca Supply Center should be built as soon as possible, in coordination with the state government, merchants, distributors, producers, and the federal government. The size of the structure and the financing of the project, of vital necessity to the state, should be determined promptly, remarked Hernandez Cervantes. He also established the Consulting Commission for Industrial Planning and Foreign Trade, which, the head of SECOFIN [Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development] claimed, will be "a strong backer to promote industrial reconversion and specialization, through the generation of new investments and specific productive projects, always bearing in mind the constant need for exporting." [Excerpt] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 2 Apr 86 pp 5-A, 28-A] 2909

PLANNED CHIHUAHUA ASSEMBLY PLANTS--Chihuahua, Chih., 3 April--Today, the manager of the Chihuahua Assembly Plants Association, Alejandro Paz, announced that, by the middle of the year, there will be 10 more assembly plants in Chihuahua which will generate an additional 8,000 jobs. At present, there are 30 assembly plants registered in this town; and hence their number will reach 40, and they will employ 25,000 workers in this industry, in the Chihuahua capital alone. This month, major assembly plants are being established, such as Digital, which will manufacture and repair computers and their components. All their investors are American, and the components will initially be purchased in the United States, and later, right here. Another assembly plant in the process of being established is the No 2 wiring and circuits plant, in which the Secretariat of Communications and Transport will participate, and which will manufacture harness. [Text] [Mexico City LA JORNADA in Spanish 4 Apr 86 p 10] 2909

CSO: 3248/348

NICARAGUA

GODOY SEES NEED FOR U.S., SOVIET INPUT INTO PEACE INITIATIVE

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 24 Apr 86 p 3

[Article by Hildegard Stausberg: "No Freedom and Hardly Any Hope of Improvement in Nicaragua"/ A Former Comrade-in-Arms Turned Skeptical Comments on Sandinistas]

[Text] The room is small and bare. An airconditioner mounted below the window frame hums loudly. A poster dominating the front wall announces: "Germany Needs the F.D.P." Somewhat faded, the lower edge carries the signature, "Your Dietrich Genscher." The office of Vigilio Godoy Reyes is located in an old suburb of the Nicaraguan capital Managua, a one-story house with a small veranda and few rooms. The master of the house is one of the best-known personalities of the Nicaraguan opposition, ambiguous and inconsistent. He is no stranger to the FRG.

In November 1981 Godoy visited Bonn officially for the first time as labor minister of the Nicaraguan government. He had never been a member of the Sandinista liberation front FSLN, but was part of the small Independent Liberal Party (PLI) which he has headed for a long time. At that time in Bonn, Godoy was still of the opinion that his country was making progress. He did not accept objections against the already clearly discernible road of the Sandinistas toward an East bloc style one-party state. At that time, he told with satisfaction of his wife's political involvement in the Sandinista militia. He does not like to be reminded of that today.

Godoy's party is a member of the Liberal International. He frequently receives invitations from the Friedrich-Naumann-Foundation in the FRG. As late as April 1983 he defended the policy of the Sandinistas in a conversation with this newspaper in Frankfurt, claimed that the situation of the non-Sandinista camp was not hopeless, and looked optimistically to the elections planned for November 1984. A few days before the event, he announced that he and his party would not participate in the elections, and he demanded lifting the state of siege and freedom of the press as conditions for his participation. Only in April of that year had he resigned from his post of labor minister; the events surrounding the elections brought the final break with the Sandinistas.

How does Godoy, a man of about fifty, see the situation today? The Sandin-

istas have failed, and totally so. We are all badly off today--the poor in particular--they no longer live, they only survive. The economy is ruined, and that has nothing to do with the war, as the Sandinistas would like foreign countries to believe; it is due to the socialist planned economy camouflaged as a "mixed economy," which does not work anywhere, including in our own country; but the most important point is that there is no longer any freedom in Nicaragua, and there is hardly any hope for improvement."

Godoy reaches far back in order to explain his break with the Sandinistas, going back to the year 1979, as many do in Nicaragua. At that time the Sandinistas, together with other groups fighting against Somoza, had formally promised before the Organization of American States (OAS) to develop a pluralistic Western-style democracy in Nicaragua. "That was the program we all shared, that everybody wanted." The Sandinistas then changed this program very cleverly, not all at once, but step by step.

Already in June 1981 the present minister of defense, Humberto Ortega, had publicly affirmed that Marxism-Leninism had to be the guideline of the Nicaraguan revolution. By the beginning of 1982 at the latest, non-Marxist circles in the government no longer had any say in it. The Junta's co-ordinator, Bayardo Arce, had openly stated in May 1984 in a speech never published in Nicaragua: "We want the dictatorship of the proletariat." The elections of 1984 put a final end to the opportunity of building a democracy in Nicaragua with the commanders.

Why was that not recognized abroad for such a long time? Godoy explains it on the one hand with the "sounding board of international dimensions" steered by the Soviet Union, and on the other hand by the misjudgment of the Socialist International. The latter had misjudged the goals of the Sandinistas--and is largely still doing so today. Sandinism had been endowed with a romantic aureole and was described as a new, authentic and honest road to a better future. A change had occurred only in recent months, after the extension of the state of emergency on 15 October. Suddenly many seem to have seen the light who had stubbornly closed their eyes before, as for example Juergen Wischnewski. Godoy stops and lights a small cigar. The monotonous hum of the airconditioner fills the room.

Does he think he is being monitored? "Quite possibly," he says with a smile, "that is the price one has to pay if one is politically engaged in Nicaragua today." For years, he worked for a negotiated solution between the Sandinistas and the democratic opposition and has said time and again that it was still possible and would come about some day. He clings to this hope, despite all disappointments: "I still cannot relinquish this hope, because there can be a lasting peace in Nicaragua only if everyone gives in. The government cannot defeat the armed anti-Sandinista opposition, that irregular army often called Contras by the Sandinistas, and they in turn cannot defeat the 80,000 men of the Sandinista People's Army. Incidentally, in case of a victory by the Contras, the Sandinistas would go back into the hills, so it would not bring about peace, either."

Who are the Contras? Most of them are deserters from the Sandinista army, only a few are a part of Somoza's former National Guard. He rejects the reiterated accusation that the United States had provoked the creation of the Contras through their policy toward Nicaragua: "The Sandinistas themselves created the Contras by Sovietizing the country against the will of the majority of the people. Incidentally, if the Contras were to lay down their weapons tomorrow, the Sandinistas would invent new Contras: they need an enemy against whom they can mobilize all forces; they use the conflict for the total mobilization of the country, for suppression of the opposition, for indoctrination of the population and, since they are internationalists, they also want to carry this system into the neighboring countries."

How will these countries react? "They will try to 'Albanize' Nicaragua, to build a cordon sanitaire around us since, after all, no one wants to live voluntarily the way we have to live now." And what about the efforts of the Contadora peace initiative? "They are failing because of a dishonest starting point. After all, not only the United States should be participating, but also the Soviets; this is never mentioned." How many Eastern military advisers are there today in Nicaragua? The largest contingent consists of Cubans with 7,000 men; the GDR and USSR have 800 advisers each, and Bulgaria, 500.

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CSO: 3620/671

NICARAGUA

SANDINISTS DESTROY NINE MISKITO VILLAGES

PA270426 San Jose LA NACION (NICARAGUA HOY Supplement) in Spanish 19 Apr 86 p 2-C

[Editorial by Pedro J. Chamorro entitled "When Barbarism Becomes Routine"]

[Text] Nine Miskito villages in the northeastern area of Nicaragua were totally demolished in late March and early April, by Sandinist tanks. The results: more than 40 dead and between 4,000 or 5,000 new refugees in Honduras.

For the residents of the area this was nothing new, it was another chapter in their long calvary of calamities endured since the FSLN went into power in Nicaragua.

The international news agencies and the main newspapers around the world have ignored this new act of genocide probably because when barbarism becomes routine, tragedy is no longer news.

Paradoxically, for many correspondents an announced invasion that has not taken place or the announced signing of a peace document that could take place under the palm trees on Contadora Island is news. Meanwhile, the civil war continues to bereave thousands of Nicaraguan families.

It is more news if Ortega puts on a tie or if he runs in "Central Park" disguised as a sportsman, while tanks raze peaceful villages while the Indians are sleeping.

What makes this even more dramatic is the fact that many Miskitos who fled this genocide in a mass exodus were the same Miskitos who had been "liberated" from the concentration camps created for them by the Sandinist military dictatorship and which they so elegantly called "resettlements" in Tasba Pri.

Following the attacks on the Miskito communities in 1981, those who were not able to flee to Honduras, or those who decided not to abandon the land that gave them birth, were forcefully transferred in an opeeration, never before seen in the history of Nicaragua, to new concentration camps that the government built hundreds of kilometers from the border with Honduras.

Late last year, the political cost to keep these concentration camps--baptized with the name "resettlements"--became unbearable for the dictatorship. A radical change in the policy of the dictatorship allowed all those Indians to return to their homes which they found destroyed and without the domestic animals they had left behind.

With hard work and much sacrifice the Miskitos began to rebuild their villages to discover that the dictatorship had decided to test their powerful Soviet tanks and mortars on the weak structures of their homes.

However, that is not news. It will probably be more news if Ortega says that he will sign the Contadora peace document for which he will probably use an AK-47 rifle.

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CSO: 3248/397

NICARAGUA

BRIEFS

COUNTRY'S OIL SUPPLY GUARANTEED--The Socialist countries will guarantee almost 100 percent of Nicaragua's oil supply for this year. This will resolve the problem of the constant supply of oil. According to (Oto Sucre), Petronic [Nicaraguan Petroleum] director, 64,200 barrels of aviation fuel will be purchased in Panama and 85,000 barrels of asphalt will be purchased in Cuba. This year Nicaragua will purchase more than 5,460,000 barrels of crude oil and byproducts. This represents an increase of 13 percent when compared to last year's import. [Text] [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1750 GMT 24 Apr 86 PA] /12913

CSO: 3248/398

ST CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

SIMMOND'S POSITION ON PRIVATIZATION, DEVELOPMENT HIT

Basseterre THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN in English 12 Mar 86 p 2

[Editorial]

The Prime Minister is reported to have addressed the Chamber of Industry and Commerce at their Annual Banquet held over the week-end.

Among other things, The Prime Minister is reported to have said to the local businessmen that profit should not be their only motive in business but that they should consider what contribution they can make to the development of their country.

As usual the Prime Minister has indulged in expression of a lot of pious platitudes to which except for the reason that they are platitudes, one cannot make objection.

The problem however is this: The Prime Minister's words are often poles apart from his actions and the actions of his Ministers.

Take for example, the government's policy of PRIVATIZATION that is the disposal of the bulk of public assets to private enterprise on the basis that the public sector's role is not to be involved in trading and other business.

If the Prime Minister exalts private enterprise to that position in terms of the country's development strategy, then he cannot complain if private enterprise acts in accordance with its own inherent logic, its own *raison d'être*, which is to make profit.

SKANTEL may have as a consideration the improvement of the communication service to St.

Kitts and Nevis. But it can only entertain that consideration in the context of making money. If it does not make money, it will not be able to finance any improvement.

But when a service like telephone communication is owned by private enterprise there are bound to be some areas of the community where the service cannot be justified on the basis of making money. Some people may suffer.

The government has pursued a policy of PRIVATIZATION not only with regard to SKANTEL but also with regard to CABLE TV, Bayfords, The Royal St. Kitts Hotel and other assets.

So our first point is this: the government cannot at one and the same time promote the "free enterprise" system as the strategy for national development and play down the value of the profit motive in free enterprise.

It is not only the policy of PRIVATIZATION which runs counter to the sentiments expressed by the Prime Minister before The Chamber.

It is also the examples offered by the Ministers themselves.

One would have thought that having sought and obtained the favour of the people and having become Ministers of Government the Ministers were choosing a life of public service.

But the Ministers are combining with their public office, businesses which they operate for profit. And if the truth be known, in the majority of cases they spend more time attending to their private businesses than they do in dealing with the public welfare.

Since example is the better part of precept it is hardly surprising that many in the community are following the examples of the Ministers to

"make hay while the sun shines."

Why, one might ask, should he exhibit a sacrificial way of living and put country above self when the ministers are all looking after themselves.

Who doesn't own garage, operates car sales and car rentals. Who doesn't have supermarket has baby wear shop. Who doesn't have bakery has photo lab. Who doesn't have block factory operates real

estate agency.

Or is it that the Prime Minister would like to admonish the citizens "do as I say but not as I do"?

This involvement in private business for profit on behalf of the Ministers has yet another effect. Many a young man who had sought to take the advice of the Prime Minister to make a contribution to his country has been discouraged by the fierceness of the competition from the Ministers.

There is another matter. If the government really wishes to see local people involved in de-

fining the strategies by which the country is to be developed, how is it that government policy has allowed for the entry of so many expatriates in areas where we had already developed adequate expertise?

Why does the government deliberately keep out of the development process local young men who have lifted themselves virtually by their own bootstraps and have prepared themselves for making a contribution?

We conclude that with the Prime Minister it's only words and words are all he has but words are not enough to move the country forward.

/13104

CSO: 3298/428

ST CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

OPPOSITION ORGAN CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT SUGAR POLICY

List of Charges

Basseterre THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN in English 29 Mar 86 p 11

[Fitzroy Bryant column "Frankly Speaking": "1986 Crop in Plenty Trouble"]

[Text] The Simmonds government has itself now admitted in public that the 1986 sugar crop in St. Kitts is in plenty of trouble. The chickens are beginning to come home to roost. But from all appearances the government is more interested in playing politics with the sugar industry than in securing the underpinnings of what everyone recognises is still "the lifeblood of the economy".

The weekly report on the crop published by the St. Kitts Sugar Manufacturing Corporation last week shows the following vital figures for the week which ended on Sunday 16 March -

tons of cane ground	14,666.43
tons of sugar produced	1,581.85
tons cane per ton sugar	9.27
hours out of cane	29.40

The report for the week which ended last Sunday, 23 March, shows -

tons of cane ground	15,608.62
tons of sugar produced	1,869.45
tons cane per ton sugar	8.35
hours out of cane	16.02

The total performance of the sugar industry down to last Sunday, according to the S.S.M.C. figures, has been -

tons of cane ground	101,499.88
tons of sugar produced	11,180.23

tons cane per ton sugar	9.08
hours out of cane	107.41

The chickens, I said, are coming home to roost.

Year after year, since Simmonds took over as Premier of this island, the government has thought it sensible to -

- (a) refuse to take seriously demands of suagar workers for a reasonable wage increase and for proper bonuses;
- (b) insult the representatives of the workers (the Union) when the Union has tried to enter into meaningful discussion and negotiations with the government;
- (c) start the crop without agreement with the representatives of the workers ;
- (d) go on television and radio and arrogantly inform the sugar workers, "When there is plenty, I give you plenty, and when there is little or nothing, I give you little or nothing. And I say the crop will start next Monday. That's an order. And you all had better go out and reap the cane. Oh else."

Year after year. From 1981 right down to 1986.

In 1986, to add insult to injury, the government started to take 2 cents out of every dollar earned by sugar workers - 'whether they earned \$10.00 or \$100.00. Two cents out of every dollar. "And if you don't like it, you can get to hell out of here!"

Now, further insult has been added to injury. Salt and pepper have been rubbed into the gaping wounds of sugar factory and sugar estate workers.

The Simmonds government has brought in a cane cutting machine to help to reap the crop. A crop which everyone expects to be the smallest crop in St. Kitts since the sugar industry was rescued in the early 1970s. A crop which is the smallest crop since NACO and S.S.M.C. were set up.

And at a time when unemployment is at its worst ever in St. Kitts and young people cannot find work to do in their our island.

And without a word of discussion about the matter with

the representatives of the workers!

In January, representatives of the Union met with the top management of S.S.M.C. No one said a word to the Union about cane cutting machine. The Union met with the top management of NACO. No mention of cane cutting machine.

The Union met with the top management of both S.S.M.C. and NACO together. Nothing said about cane cutting machine.

Finally, the Union met with the government - Hugh Heyliger, the Minister responsible for the sugar industry.

Not a word about cane cutting machine.

Obviously, the Simmonds government believes that bringing in of a cane cutting machine is not the business of the sugar workers, does not concern them. So the government doesn't have to say anything on that matter to the Union. Is fast the Union fast.

No information. No consultation. No discussion. No negotiations. Rule by decree.

But, of course, everyone must do his part to make sure the sugar crop is reaped in the economic period. The workers must put their shoulders to the wheel and put country above self.

Every time the government, as employer, kicks about, sugar factory and sugar estate workers and you complain about it, you get the same answer: Country above self, man. Just tek the kicks and hush. You aganist the government or what?

Simmonds and his gang are treating the sugar industry as if it is their private property. It doesn't belong to the people of St. Kitts, but rather to Kennedy Simmonds, Michael Powell, Hugh Hegliger, and the rest of the PAM trumps. It is their personal possession.

So don't ask them nothing, don't tell them nothing. They will tell you all you need to know. And what they don't tell you, don't ask.

The steady decline in the sugar industry is the direct and immediate result of two re-inforcing negative policies by the reationary PAM government.

On the one hand is the policy of spite and victimisation against the Union and sugar workers and their families that the government believes does not support it.

On the other hand is the policy of favouritism and nepotism towards friends and relations however incompetent otherwise unsuitable for management roles in the industry.

Review of Government Actions

Basseterre THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN in English 29 Mar 86 p 2

[Editorial] The confusion in the government's thinking is now most apparent in its dealing with the sugar industry.

The government has no clear perception of the role sugar is to play in their plan for the national economy.

And since it has no clear perception, it has no cogent policies. Such decisions as are taken in the sugar industry are not based on any objective information and are not aimed at attaining any clear objectives.

When the government was a party in opposition their position stated with stark clarity was that "sugar dead".

When the party entered government they did everything to bring about fulfilment of their prophecy .

First of all as a matter of policy they elevated the tourist industry to the No. 1 position. They stated this positively on every possible occasion. But they went further. Just as often they took opportunity to make the point that they were downgrading sugar because of the importance the former Administration had attached to it. It is in this context that they develop the approach of speaking of DIVERSIFICATION every time they got a chance.

But so far as the tourist industry is concerned performance has not up to now matched the words. The real situation in this sector has fallen far short of expectations.

And as for DIVERSIFICATION the only evidence of that is the use of the word in governmental literature.

In the second place the government played the fool with the structure and management of the industry.

We can understand why the government felt in 1980 that they had to remove Willie Dore from the headship of NACO notwithstanding his experience and proven competence.

We have never been able to sympathise with the decisions (a) to put in charge of perhaps the most important enterprise in the country a man from the middle management of the Sugar Factory without any special training or expertise and (b) to rehire as part of field management, men who had already been put out of the industry for ineptitude, incompetence or dishonesty.

We have also been unable to support the approach to the finances of the industry.

When the decisions relating to management and the finances led to further decline in the industry the government sought a study into and recommendations touching the future of the industry.

A study was undertaken and recommendations made by Bookers, a well known English and International agricultural outfit.

What Bookers recommended has been studiously kept away from the public but the Prime Minister indicated that the report recommended the restructuring of the industry. The restructuring has taken the form of the abolition of NACO and subsuming

the entire operations of the industry under S.S.M.C. with a new expatriate General Manager as its head,

It is not clear what this method of restructuring is intended to achieve; certainly not financial viability. With the elimination of NACO it is said that some 41 persons are to be ultimately displaced. Assuming each to have received \$1000 per month then the total amount of money to be saved by that means is \$492000; i.e. less than half a million dollars. One would have to deduct from that amount the annual salaries of officers and consultants recruited from overseas. If we estimate this to be \$150,000 per year then the real savings are \$342000 per year.

According to the Prime Minister, as at 1st January, 1986 NACO's accumulated debt was \$42 million. According to Michael Powell, Deputy Prime Minister and at the time Minister of Agriculture the NACO debt was \$12 million in 1980. It follows that in 5 years it had increased by \$30 million, i.e. an average of \$6 million per year.

The Prime Minister cannot reasonably expect sensible people to believe that he will correct a situation of losing \$6 million per year by putting off 41 persons and saving less than \$½ million per year.

In the third place the government undermined the stable industrial relations and the harmony which existed in the industry.

It constantly undermined the viability of the Union and failed to recognize the role of the Union in encouraging high levels of productivity.

In the fourth place the government alienated the goodwill of the workers in the industry. Perks which the workers had formerly been denied them. They were denied the use of tractors to assist with their cultivation or take water to their animals or to haul stones or sand to help in their building programmes.

They were forced during the dull season to exist on starvation wages because they were offered a maximum of 2 days work and sometimes no work at all.

They were compelled to work in one year for the same money they had worked for in the preceding year.

Even when they were given some derisory increase they were subjected to a new form of taxation which deprived them of sizeable amounts of their money.

That was the general back drop against which the crop opened this year.

The malaise in the country was obvious from the beginning. There was a shortage of cane-cutters and a shortage of cane reaching the factory.

Time and time again the factory started to grind and had to stop prematurely because it had run out of cane. Management circles within the sugar factory were bemoaning the shortage of cane supply and expressing the

desire of having more canes sent to the factory.

Management personnel on the field side were contacting Union personnel and asking for help in finding 400 additional cane cutters.

All the time, however, ZIZ radio and T.V. were publishing how wonderfully well the crop was progressing.

Now, at last, it seems has come an admission that things are not as good as they tried to make them appear.

They have brought in a cane cutting machine to help with the harvesting. Machines have been tried here before. No one

wishes to and no one can hold off machines for ever.

But the government must admit that they have needed to resort to machines because their policies with regard to Men have failed.

Nor can they any more succeed with machines until they clarify what place in national economic planning the sugar industry occupies.

This editorial is not an artificial controversy about the contrasting merits of men and machines. On the contrary it is our view that if clear goals in the industry are identified, men and machines can work together in harmony for its optimal development.

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CSO: 3298/428

ST CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

GOVERNMENT PRAISED FOR HELPING HAND TO AGRICULTURE

Basseterre THE DEMOCRAT in English 29 Mar 86 p 2

[Text]

For over a decade food crop production in St. Kitts and Nevis has fallen in general. Various factors are attributed to this decline: the decrease in the number of small farmers, lack of adequate financial returns, the dominance of sugar in the agricultural sector in St. Kitts, and the structural weakness due to the lack of formal land tenure and organised marketing. Additionally, as a result of rising incomes, consumer tastes and food preferences have changed so that food imports have increased.

Since taking office in 1980 the PAM/NRP Government has enunciated a policy of agricultural diversification as a significant part of the overall economic diversification programme. The Government has embarked on its agricultural diversification programme, accepting the fact that agriculture represents the main activity of the people of St. Kitts and Nevis, and by virtue of its dominance in the economy, agricultural development must be the dominant factor in the nation's overall development programme.

The potential of agriculture, with its varied inter-sector linkages, particularly the tourism sector, to generate the means for an improved standard of living for the majority of the population and generally to create the basis for overall economic development in St. Kitts and Nevis has gained wide acceptance. This is evident with the number of young people now accepting the Government's challenge to actively participate in the agricultural diversification programme.

Cognisant of the need to complement the older generation of farmers by young energetic members of the society, the Government has embarked upon various types of training programmes for young farmers, locally and overseas. Additionally, the teaching of Agricultural Science has been intensified in schools, and a School Farm is to become operational shortly. The training of young people in Agriculture is designed to motivate them to develop a new concept of agriculture as a respectable occupation with potential for growth, development and profit, as enunciated repeatedly by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister in several addresses. A programme has been put together to train persons overseas for the Department of Agriculture's Extension Division. This is geared to making technical expertise available to small farmers.

The Government has made equipment available to prepare land for farmers and it is understood that additional land will be made available to farmers in St. Kitts on long-term lease arrangement. Financial assistance has already been made available by Government to bona-fide farmers and fishermen through the Department of Agriculture's Loan Programme and through the Development Bank. This assistance is on concessionary terms; indeed it is free of interest through the Department of Agriculture.

Additionally, a new Administration Building is now under construction at La Guerite to provide the proper conditions conducive to the functioning of the Department's Staff.

The Hon. Minister of Agriculture recently made a tour visiting farmers, encouraging them in their endeavours, and highlighting areas where Government is providing and intends to provide assistance to them. The efforts of Government in implementing a diversified agricultural development programme is lauded by the farming community who have now taken up the challenge to improve food production. The result is evident for all to see; a significant increase in output of fruits and vegetables

The upcoming Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition slated for 17 - 19 April 1986 should provide the farmers with an opportunity to display samples of their produce.

The Government must be commended for its efforts in putting together a meaningful programme in the Agricultural Sector and we predict that the programme will be a success and will be in the best interest of the Nation as a whole.

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CSO: 3298/428

VENEZUELA

SEVERAL GROUPS REJECT U.S. ATTACK ON LIBYA

PA191358 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Report by Manuel Villar, PRENSA LATINA correspondent in Caracas--live telephone relay]

[Text] In Venezuela, leaders of leftist and progressive political and social organizations have continued to categorically condemn the U.S. aggression against Libya, in contrast to the moderate position of the social democratic government of President Jaime Lusinchi.

In remarks to the PRENSA LATINA radio service, Domingo Alberto Rangel, writer, university professor, and expert in international affairs, has reported Washington's intentions with the aggression against Libya.

[Begin Rangel recording] The aggression carried out by the United States against Libya was a barbaric action. There is no other way to describe it. It responded to a policy of the Reagan administration to corner small countries that represent the vanguard of national liberation movements which are shaking the Third World. The truth is that the terrorism issue is a pretext. The lies that Reagan has been saying about the Nicaraguan regime and the Central America situation is also another pretext. It will be shown once more that the peoples of the Third World who carry out a revolution cannot be hurt or liquidated through the state terrorism that imperialism is practicing through its armed forces. [end recording]

Meanwhile, David Nieves, deputy of the Socialist Homeland Movement, called for a vast Latin American unity to face the U.S. policy.

[Begin Nieves recording] We feel that the aggression of President Ronald Reagan, backed by Thatcher and the Israeli Zionists, calls for a massive and multiple response of the Latin American revolutionaries. [end recording]

Solidarity with the Libyan people and government was also expressed by the Communist Party the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, Father Juan Vives Sulia, the president of the Venezuelan Council for Peace, and Adolfo Gonzalez Urdaneta, secretary general of the People's Electoral Movement, whose statements to the PRENSA LATINA radio service were as follows:

[Begin recording] The MEP, the Socialist Party of Venezuela, expresses its reaffirmation of complete support for the Libyan nation and its present administration in the face of the savage and monstrous attack and criminal attitude of the U.S. Government, particularly that of President Reagan. [end recording]

VENEZUELA

OPEC COUNTRIES AGREE TO LOWER PRODUCTION

PA220430 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Excerpts] After 8 days of intense and controversial discussions full of expectations and disagreements--although still somewhat optimistic--the OPEC meeting ended. A concrete decision was made, which in the opinion of the oil experts will mark the beginning of the international market's stabilization and the recovery of the price of crude. Venezuelan Mines Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti pointed out that the decision represents an increase of 700,000 barrels in the current OPEC production ceiling, and for Venezuela it means that during the third trimester of the year our production quota will be a minimum of 30,000 barrels more than our current annual quota. This will allow Venezuela to fulfill its export commitments.

[Begin Hernandez Grisanti recording] We are going to gradually reduce our production from its current level. It is very important for Venezuela's public to be informed of this because although the theoretical ceiling was 16 million [barrels per day], in reality the OPEC countries are producing more than 17 million. Therefore, we will gradually reduce this production so that by the third trimester--the July, August, September trimester--we will be producing 16,300,000 barrels.

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